



THE LIBRARIES

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

---

HEALTH SCIENCES  
LIBRARY



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2010 with funding from  
Open Knowledge Commons

*New-York Institution for the Blind*

## EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE

MANAGERS

OF THE

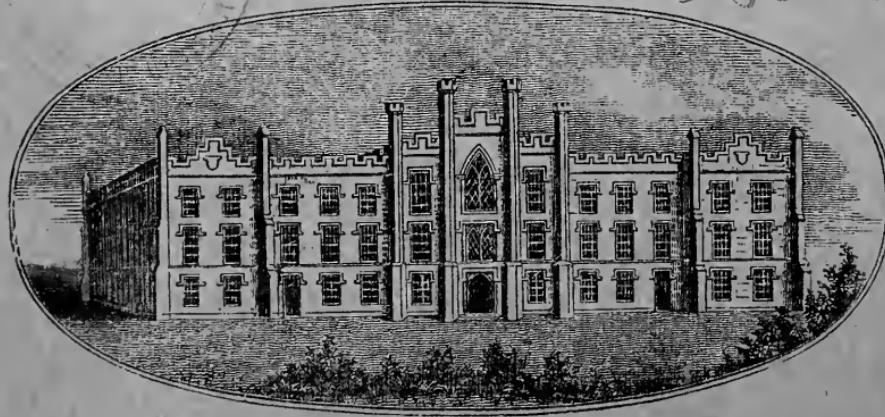
# NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE:

Dec 16 42

*Scrap*



MADE IN CONFORMITY TO LAW,

JANUARY, 1854,

FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR.

♦♦♦

NEW-YORK:

JAMES EGBERT, PRINTER, 374 PEARL STREET.

1854.



# EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

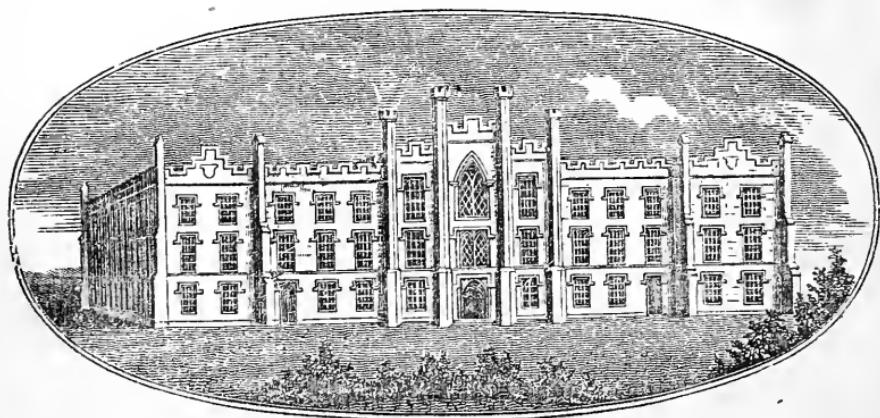
MANAGERS

OF THE

## NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE:



MADE IN CONFORMITY TO LAW,

JANUARY, 1854,

FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR,



NEW-YORK:

JAMES EGBERT, PRINTER, 374 PEARL STREET,

1854.



# MANAGERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

For 1854.

SILAS BROWN,  
GEORGE F. ALLEN,  
ISAAC WOOD, M. D.  
ROBERT GRACIE,  
ROBERT L. MURRAY,  
ROBERT L. CASE.  
JOHN P. CROSBY,  
HENRY SHELDON,  
JOHN A. KING, Jr.  
AUGUSTUS SCHELL,

MAHLON DAY,  
GEORGE F. JONES,  
JOHN G. ADAMS, M. D.  
GOVERNEUR M. OGDEN,  
JAMES N. COBB,  
EDWARD L. BEADLE, M. D.  
EDWARD WOOD,  
JOHN D. OGDEN, M. D.  
ALFRED W. CRAVEN,  
ANSON G. PHELPS.

## OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.

ISAAC WOOD, M. D. *President.*  
SILAS BROWN, *Vice President*  
GEORGE F. ALLEN, *Recording Secretary.*  
JOHN P. CROSBY, *Corresponding Secretary.*  
SILAS BROWN, *Treasurer.*

## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION

For 1854.

T. COLDEN COOPER, *Superintendent.*

Teachers in the Literary Department.

WILLIAM N. CLEVELAND,	MARY J. CROFUT,
GROVER CLEVELAND,	LOUISA MOWREY,
FRANCES J. CROSBY.	

Teachers in the Musical Department.

ANTHONY REIFF, (Instrumental.)	GEORGE F. ROOT, (Vocal.)
CHARLES HAZLET "	EZRA HALL, "
CATHARINE KENNEDY "	CATHARINE CONNELL
ANGELINE CUTTER.	

Teachers in the Mechanical Department.

JAMES YOUNG, (Agent & Instructor.)	SAMUEL HUTCHINGS,
JAMES HEMPHILL,	ELEAZER JOHNSON,
MARY ANN KENNEDY.	

Matron.

Mrs. SARAH S. AMES.

Attending Physician.

J. W. G. CLEMENTS.

Consulting Physicians.

ISAAC WOOD, M. D.	JAMES C. BLISS, M. D.
-------------------	-----------------------

Consulting Surgeon.

A BRAM DUBOIS, M. D.

## STANDING COMMITTEES.

For 1854.

---

### Committee on Finance.

ROBERT GRACIE, | JOHN D. OGDEN, M. D.  
ROBERT L. CASE.

### Committee on Instruction,

GEORGE F. ALLEN, | AUGUSTUS SCHELL,  
EDWARD L. BEADLE, M. D.

### Committee on Music.

JOHN P. CROSBY, | JOHN G. ADAMS, M. D.  
ANSON G. PHELPS.

### Committee on Manufactures.

ROBERT I. MURRAY, | JOHN A. KING, Jr.,  
GEORGE F. JONES.

### Committee on Supplies.

ROBERT L. CASE, | JAMES N. COBB,  
EDWARD WOOD.

### Committee on Repairs & Improvements.

MAHLON DAY, | JAMES N. COBB,  
GEORGE F. JONES.

### Committee on Chapel.

SILAS BROWN,  
JOHN A. KING, Jr.,  
EDWARD L. BEADLE, | ROBERT GRACIE,  
GOVERNEUR M. OGDEN,  
JAMES N. COBB.

# REPORT.

---

TO THE HONORABLE THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE  
OF NEW-YORK:

THE Board of Managers of the New-York Institution for the Blind present this, their Eighteenth Annual Report.

And whilst happily they are enabled to speak of the continued prosperity of the Institution under their charge, and of their usefulness in fostering the mental as well as the mechanical talent of the Blind, they are pained to have to commemorate the loss, during the past year, by death, of **CYRENIUS BEERS** and **ANSON G. PHELPS**, two of the oldest Managers of the Institution. These gentlemen had been members of the Board, and the latter its honored President, for many years. They had ever striven to advance the prosperity of the Institution and to alleviate the misfortunes of its inmates, and when advice or pecuniary aid were needed, as were both to a large degree in the earlier years of the Institution, they were among the foremost to afford well timed and ample assistance, being anxious to follow in the steps of **ACKERLY** and **WOOD** in building up an Institu-

tion which in its importance to the Blind should be worthy of the liberality of the State. Like their predecessors, they now rest from their labors, and are, it is trusted, in the full fruition of the reward of their good deeds. Appropriate resolutions, which are appended to this Report, were adopted to show, however faintly, the estimation in which the remembrance of their virtues were held by this Board.

By reference to the Reports of the several standing committees, hereinafter contained, will be found the condition of the several Departments of the Institution. It is with regret that we have to record the death of one of the pupils, Nathaniel Wolsey, from a disease which had become chronic with him, and the effects of which he could no longer resist. He had been connected with the Institution only a few weeks. Otherwise the inmates of the Institution have been blessed with unusual health.

As was foreshadowed in the Report of last year the operations of our Manufacturing Department became so extended as to require more room for carrying on the several trades than could be afforded in the original building on the Eighth Avenue. With cramped accommodations it was impossible to satisfy the requests of the constant applicants from various parts of this and other States for an opportunity to work. Being obliged to ask last winter for an extraordinary grant from the Legislature for the payment of various assessments imposed by the city authorities and also for sundry repairs to the old buildings, it was deemed advisable by the Board, as the enlargement was abso-

lutely essential, and could not be delayed until another year, to borrow upon mortgage the sum of fifty thousand dollars, to erect on the Eighth Avenue (one of the chief business streets of the city) substantial edifices which should combine the double purpose of large workshops for the Blind and spacious stores upon the ground floor and fronting on the avenue. It was supposed the latter would produce an income sufficient to keep down the annual interest upon the mortgage and also to form a partial sinking fund, which with future aid from the State, would, in a few years, leave the Institution not only unencumbered, but with a valuable and productive property.

The buildings are nearly complete. The Mattress and Paper Box trades occupy their destined rooms. Some of the stores also have been leased at good rents, and the remainder will undoubtedly be eagerly sought for in early spring, being unequalled in size or appearance by any others upon the Eighth Avenue. The working rooms in the extension of the central building are six in number, and are fifty-seven feet six inches in width by ninety feet in depth, well heated and ventilated and entirely separate from the stores beneath. Foreseeing that, with the increased accommodations there would in all probability be a corresponding increase of applicants for work, and with the desire to extend the benefits of the Manufacturing Department to as many of the industrious Blind as are willing to earn their own livelihood, whether graduates of the Institution or not, it was, after much reflection, determined to change the future mode of conducting the Department.

Hitherto, although deriving no support for such purpose from the State, the Institution has afforded board and lodging to the adults at a minimum price, to be paid by each out of the gross amount of his or her earnings for the quarter. The sole requirement for admission has been the production of testimonials of good moral character. As some have applied from distant parts of this as well as other States, it has been apprehended that sometimes these testimonials might be given without that due regard for entire accuracy which ought to characterize all such papers, and which are so necessary to serve as a guaranty to the managers for the proper conduct of adults living as it were in one common household. All must know the entire impossibility of restraining by strict rules, except in prisons or lunatic asylums, men and women who are industrious, who have worked hard all day and have thereby earned, together with their wages, a relief from the jealous eye of the Superintendent and the shackles which a community of interest must necessarily impose upon each one of the mammoth household. It will therefore be perceived by those who will reflect, that with the enlargement of our working accommodations and upon the terms of admission which could not readily be changed, the Board of Managers were assuming a fearful responsibility respecting adults, over whom, no matter what might be the ostensible strictness of the regulations, restraint could not be exercised during other than working hours.

For the benefit of all parties it was therefore deter-

mined that after the first of January all applicants should be supplied with work but not furnished with board and lodging, and further that such as at present were with us should as soon as practicable provide for themselves elsewhere, coming to the workshops day by day to work. Most have already acted upon this, and although they may have to pay higher rates outside, it is hoped that they may be compensated by a higher tariff of wages, although they at present receive for their work twenty-five per cent in advance of the seeing. The Managers point with pleasure to the fact, that the Blind have earned and been paid Seven Thousand Dollars during the past year in the shape of wages, a result of the year's transactions truly worthy of attention. Their work, whether in the shape of a Hair Mattress, a Door Mat, or a Paper Box, will bear the closest examination for neatness, excellence and strength, and if in some of the minute details, they may be unable to accomplish the precision of an accurate eyesight, these defects, it has been found, can be remedied most successfully by the combination of a small degree of seeing labor with that of the blind. With the exception of the change mentioned as to the adults residing elsewhere rather than in one ungovernable household, none other is contemplated in the Management of the manufacturing department. A similar change was adopted at the Boston Institution some two or three years since, and we believe it has there been attended with the happiest results. At that time we were unwilling to accede to it, as both that Institution and

our own, were then experimenting upon the most feasible mode of conducting the Manufacturing Department, then new projects to both Institutions and growing out as it were of the manual labor instructions of the under-graduate pupils. Experience indicates that as our operations increase, and they have been largely on the increase during the past year, the difficulties of carrying out the original purposes, as conceived by us for a small household, are perhaps unsurmountable having due regard to that discipline which properly ought to be maintained.

The Institution does not desire to make money out of the manufacturers, but simply to extend the benefits of combined work to the Industrious Blind, offering to them trades, the raw material to carry on those trades, wages for their labor, and no risk as to the sales of articles when manufactured. There is never a pretence to undersell the market, on the contrary there is great difficulty to keep even with the competition of those with sight. As success may attend the business it is proposed to increase the wages of the operatives and thereby enable them to accumulate something beyond the amount necessary for their daily expenses of living. Every inducement will be offered to stimulate their efforts for self-support. The Managers simply wish to relieve themselves from the grave responsibility as to the conduct, except while in the shops, of parties drawn together from very different situations in life and frequently without previous education or restraint. To teach them to labor is comparatively an easy duty, but to connect with this

the anxiety of the moral establishment would in the judgment of the Board, be placing the success of the whole undertaking in jeopardy. The Manufacturing Department, and indeed the very Institution for the under graduates would be loaded down with a responsibility which neither the State or any class of her citizens could in justice exact.

The system about to be adopted in the Manufacturing department is a simple one, has been satisfactorily tried at Boston, and is based upon the earnest desire to carry out the instruction imparted to those who have graduated from the Institution, to forward to the utmost the industry of all the worthy blind, whether our graduates or not, to remove from the afflicted the harrowing feeling of dependence, and to elevate as it were a class of citizens formerly considered as useless.

To accomplish objects such as these, and to build workshops for these purposes, the Managers, as before stated, have mortgaged a portion of their premises for fifty thousand dollars. They are confident that when properly applied to at some future session, the Legislature of this great and benevolent State will not fail to sustain the action of this Board by a liberal appropriation towards extinguishing the incumbrance upon the grounds of the Institution.

It is however at present more particularly necessary to call your attention to the entire inadequacy of the stipend allowed by the State for its pupils in the Institution proper. Some twenty years back when the wants of all were fewer and satisfied at a much

cheaper rate, it was thought that one hundred and thirty dollars per year for each State pupil together with the allowance of twenty dollars for clothing, the latter to be paid by the counties whence the pupil came, would be sufficient to sustain and clothe the child, to instruct him in literary, musical and mechanical knowledge, to keep up his proportion of the necessary appliances of a great establishment with a Superintendent, Matron, and many domestics attached to it, and also to repair the buildings in which the children lived. At that time and for that stipend, together with such assistance as could from year to year be derived from the benevolent, the Institution seems to have been carried on without subjecting its Treasurer to be constantly in advance of his receipts ; but of later years the case has been different, and from time to time there has been necessarily an application to the Legislature for additional assistance.

This has been, upon a proper representation of facts, ever cheerfully granted. The Managers, knowing how far short of the unavoidable daily expenses are the quarterly receipts from the State, would now suggest that the annual stipend per pupil be increased in amount to conform in some degree to the higher prices demanded for every article of sustenance, for Teachers' salaries, and for the necessary repairs to buildings, which, from their growing age, require more expenditure than formerly. In furtherance of this suggestion, the Board have passed a resolution to make a joint application, in connection with the Institution

for the Deaf and Dumb, (whose necessities are equally urgent and from similar causes with our own) for such further allowance as in your wisdom may be considered sufficient to carry out the intentions of the State in building up these Institutions, and as shall render it unnecessary to seek for aid from future Legislatures, except upon extraordinary occasions. It may be well to state in addition that the State of New-Jersey now pays to us for her Pupils, the sum of two hundred dollars for each pupil. A similar allowance is made by Pennsylvania to the Institution for the Blind in Philadelphia for each of her State pupils. Certainly if that amount is requisite in that state for a proper maintenance of her children, the appliances necessary for such purposes and the means of living are not more economical in this great and prosperous State.

We trust then that when our application is presented to your Honorable Bodies it may engage your serious attention and may not be found unwarrantable.

During the year considerable expenses have been incurred by the introduction of gas through our buildings, an improvement long needed, but which could not be accomplished at an earlier period for the want of gas mains in the Avenues. Sundry and large repairs have also been required about the extensive buildings within the Institution grounds. It is hoped with the coming year that these expenses may be diminished, and that the capital invested in the Manufacturing Department may in part be returned to replenish our exhausted treasury,

The Institution continues in charge of Mr. T. Colden Cooper, whose report is annexed and will furnish a more detailed history of the course of events within our walls during the past year.

Mr. Theodore D. Camp, during the past four years the zealous agent of the Manufacturing Department, has determined to leave us. The vacancy will be filled by James Young, the former Mat Instructor.

All of which is most respectfully submitted, by order of the Board of Managers.

ISAAC WOOD, PRESIDENT.

JOHN P. CROSBY, SECRETARY, *ad interim.*

*Resolutions adopted by the Board of Managers upon the death of Mr. CYRENIUS BEERS.*

*Resolved.* That the Board have heard with deep sorrow and regret the death of CYRENIUS BEERS, for many years a Manager of the Institution.

*Resolved.* That by the death of Mr. Beers, the Institution is deprived of a useful, active and efficient Manager, one who was ever ready to do all in his power for its welfare.

*Resolved.* That by the death of Mr. Beers, we are called to mourn the loss of a truly good man, who, in every situation of life was faithful, consistent and exemplary, and in his life, as well as his death, has left an example worthy of imitation,

*Resolved.* That the date of his death be placed on the records of the Institution.

*Resolved.* That we offer our sincere condolence to his afflicted family, and humbly trust that they will find support and consolation from that source which alone can give it.

*Resolved.* That these resolutions be placed on the minutes, and a copy forwarded to the family.

*Resolutions adopted upon the death of the President of the Board, Mr. ANSON G. PHELPS.*

*Resolved.* That this Board have heard with sincere regret the death of Anson G. Phelps, for many years its efficient President and liberal benefactor.

*Resolved.* That in the death of Anson G. Phelps, the commercial community are called to mourn the loss of an upright and honorable merchant, a fit model for imitation.

*Resolved.* That the Church of which he was an officer, the different societies with which he was connected, and a large circle of friends, have lost a good christian, a generous patron, and a sure friend.

*Resolved.* That we truly sympathize with his family in their affliction, and humbly pray that a kind Providence may "sanctify his fatherly correction to them, endue their souls with patience under their affliction, and with resignation to His blessed will, comfort them with a sense of His goodness, and give them peace through Jesus Christ our Lord."

*Resolved.* That these Resolutions be published, and a copy sent to the family.

## Report of the Committee on Instruction.

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR  
THE BLIND:

*The Committee on Instruction respectfully*

### **REPORT,**

That during the past year the prescribed course of instruction has been essentially the same as in previous years, embracing all the usual branches of a thorough English education, and the pupils have made very considerable proficiency in each, as was manifested on the occasion of the usual annual public examination and exhibition, which took place on the eleventh day of May, in Metropolitan Hall, and was numerously attended by an audience that manifested the deepest interest in the examination, and expressed the greatest gratification at the result.

The Institution has lost during the year the services of Mr. R. J. W. Buckland, for nearly three years principal teacher in the male department. Mr. Buckland's resignation took place on the 4th of May, but he continued to perform his accustomed duties to the end of his term. His place was filled on the 5th of October, by the appointment of Mr. W. N. Cleveland, a graduate of Hamilton College. The assistant teacher in the male department, Mr. J. W. Bligh, also resigned. His place has been filled by the appointment of Mr. S. G. Cleveland.

In the female department no changes have been made. Miss Mary J. Crofut, as principal teacher continues to give entire satisfaction as also do her assistants, Miss Louisa Morey, and Miss F. J. Crosby, graduates of the Institution.

The number instructed has been:

Males,	62
Females,	54

For the names of students and the studies pursued, your Committee beg leave to refer to the accompanying statements.

The expenditures made under the authority of your Committee have been for the past year as follows:

For Teachers' Salaries, . . . .	\$1 070 09
For Books, Printing &c., . . . .	89 50

The undersigned cannot close without expressing the regret they feel in having been deprived for a great portion of the year, of the valuable aid and counsel of their associate, Geo. F. Allen Esq., who on account of ill health, was compelled to withdraw from his accustomed labors and find a temporary home in a foreign land.

AUGUSTUS SCHELL,

E. L. BEADLE.

*Committee on Instruction.*

## LIST OF PUPILS.

## M A L E S .

Names.	Town.	County.
ANTHONY, TERENCE . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
BALL, JAMES . . . . .	Paris, . . .	<i>Oneida.</i>
BENNETT, GEORGE . . . . .	Catherines, . . .	<i>Chemung.</i>
BENEDICT, GEORGE . . . . .	Oxford, . . .	<i>Michigan.</i>
CALLIS, WILLIAM H. . . . .	Frankfort, . . .	<i>Herkimer.</i>
CLARK, DARLING . . . . .	Malone, . . .	<i>Franklin.</i>
CARROLL, FRANCIS . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
CROGH, EDMUND . . . . .	" . . .	"
CUTLER, GEORGE . . . . .	Paterson, . . .	<i>Passaic, N. J.</i>
DINAN, JOHN . . . . .	Ellicottville, . . .	<i>Cattaraugus.</i>
DOLSTON, MORRIS . . . . .	Honeoye, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
FALLS, JOHN . . . . .	Morris, . . .	<i>Otsego.</i>
GOLDEN, JOHN . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
GOODSELL, CHARLES . . . . .	Tompkins, . . .	<i>Delaware.</i>
GREENE, GEORGE W. . . . .	Fishkill, . . .	<i>Dutchess.</i>
GRAYSMAN, PETER . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
HANNA, ALEXANDER . . . . .	Lisbon, . . .	<i>St. Lawrence.</i>
HICKEY, ROBERT . . . . .	Eagle, . . .	<i>Wyoming.</i>
HYDE, BARTHOLOMEW . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
HAGGARTY, PETER . . . . .	" . . .	"
JACKSON, ROBERT A. . . . .	Avon, . . .	<i>Livingston.</i>
JAMES, BENJAMIN . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
JOHNSON, WILLIAM F. . . . .	Ithaca, . . .	<i>Tompkins</i>
KAHOE, WILLIAM . . . . .	Rochester, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
KAVANAGH, JAMES . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
KENNEDY, NICHOLAS . . . . .	Williamsburg, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
KOPLER, JOHN . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
KELLY, MICHAEL . . . . .	" . . .	"
LAYTON, CHARLES . . . . .	Newark, . . .	<i>Essex, N. J.</i>
LAMPER, LEWIS . . . . .	Clayton, . . .	<i>Jefferson.</i>
LYNCH, MICHAEL . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>

Names.	Town.	County.
LEWIS, HIRAM . . . . .	Norwich, .	<i>Chenango.</i>
ULL, ARIS . . . . .	New Lisbon, .	<i>Otsego.</i>
MILLER, RICHARD . . . . .	Ancram, .	<i>Columbia.</i>
MAHONEY, CORNELIUS . . . . .	New-York, .	<i>New-York.</i>
MORRISON, CHARLES . . . . .	" .	"
MINER, JOSEPH. . . . .	Kingston, .	<i>Ulster.</i>
M'ARDLE, OWEN . . . . .	Albany, .	<i>Albany.</i>
M'GRATH, TIMOTHY . . . . .	New-York, .	<i>New-York.</i>
M'KENNA, PATRICK . . . . .	" .	"
M'CLELLAND, ADAM . . . . .	" .	"
MALONE, EDMUND . . . . .	" .	"
MINOT, FRANKLIN . . . . .	Rochester, .	<i>Monroe.</i>
OTTO, CHARLES G. . . . .	New-York, .	<i>New-York.</i>
O'DONNELL, JOHN . . . . .	" .	"
O'BRIEN, JAMES H. . . . .	Lockport, .	<i>Niagara.</i>
PURCELL, MICHAEL . . . . .	Troy, .	<i>Renssalaer.</i>
REMSEN, GEORGE W. . . . .	Brooklyn, .	<i>Kings.</i>
ROE, THOMAS . . . . .	Schenectady, .	<i>Schenectady.</i>
RUSSELL, ALFRED . . . . .	Scriba, .	<i>Oswego.</i>
SHOTWELL, THEODORE . . . . .	Newark, .	<i>Essex, N. J.</i>
SHULTHEIS, HERMAN . . . . .	New-York, .	<i>New-York.</i>
SLATTERY, PATRICK . . . . .	" .	"
SMITH, JOHN D. . . . .	Oppenheim, .	<i>Fulton.</i>
THOMPSON, FREDERICK . . . . .	New Rochelle, .	<i>Westchester.</i>
TILLOTSON JEREMIAH . . . . .	Rochester, .	<i>Monroe.</i>
VAN HOUTEN, CRINES . . . . .	Franklin, .	<i>Bergen, N. J.</i>
VAN COTT, MYER . . . . .	Hackensack, .	"
VAN KUNE, SAMUEL . . . . .	New-York, .	<i>New-York.</i>
WARRINER, WALLACE . . . . .	Weathersfield, .	<i>Wyoming.</i>
WHITAKER, JOHN . . . . .	Hempstead, .	<i>Queens.</i>
WOOD, CHARLES M. . . . .	Brooklyn, .	<i>Kings.</i>

## F E M A L E S .

Names.	Town.	County.
ALLEN, SARAH . . . . .	Sparta, . . .	<i>Livingston.</i>
ARNOLD, LOUISA . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
BARNETT, HANNAH . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
BEATTIE, CHARLOTTE . . . . .	Webster, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
BELL, SUSAN . . . . .	Lisbon, . . .	<i>St. Lawrence.</i>
BRIDE, MARY . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
BENEDICT, HELEN A. . . . .	Litchfield, . . .	<i>Herkimer.</i>
BRADLEY, MARY . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
COX, ANN . . . . .	"	"
CRAWFORD, MARY A. . . . .	"	"
CURTIS, DORINDA . . . . .	"	"
DELOSS, CATHARINE . . . . .	Herkimer, . . .	<i>Herkimer.</i>
FLANAGAN, MARY . . . . .	Rochester, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
FLEMING, PHILENA . . . . .	Geneva, . . .	<i>Ontario.</i>
FOSTER, MARY J. . . . .	Oneida, . . .	<i>Madison.</i>
GASTON, ARAMINTA . . . . .	New Orleans, . .	<i>Louisiana.</i>
GREEN, MARY D. . . . .	Fishkill, . . .	<i>Dutchess.</i>
HASTINGS, MARY C. . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
HATCHMAN, ALICE . . . . .	West Farms, . .	<i>Westchester.</i>
HEATH, MARY J. . . . .	Little Falls, . .	<i>Herkimer.</i>
HERMANN, THERESA . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
INGALLS, HARRIET . . . . .	Dansville, . . .	<i>Steuben.</i>
KERTZ, GERTUDE . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
KNOWLES, MARY . . . . .	"	"
LONG, PATIENCE . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . .	<i>Kings:</i>
LUXTON, CHARLOTTE A. . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
LENT, CATHARINE . . . . .	Niskayuna, . . .	<i>Schenectady.</i>
MOGEL, MARGARETTA . . . . .	Williamsburg, . .	<i>Kings.</i>
MARRIN, MARGARET . . . . .	Wheatland, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
MALONE, ELLEN . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
MALONE, ELLEN . . . . .	"	"

Names.	Town.	County.
M'AULEY, MARGARET . . . . .	New-York	<i>New-York.</i>
M'GREGOR, SUSAN . . . . .	"	"
MOORE, MARTHA G. . . . .	Newburg, . . .	<i>Orange.</i>
MILLARD, LYDIA . . . . .	Catskill, . . .	<i>Green.</i>
MILLARD, SARAH . . . . .	"	"
O'BEIRNE, BARBARA . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
PHILLIPS, MARGARET J. . . . .	"	"
QUIMBY, CAROLINE . . . . .	"	"
ROBINSON, ELIZA A. . . . .	"	"
RODNEY, HANNAH . . . . .	"	"
SAUNDERSON, SARAH . . . . .	"	"
SCHROEDER, SARAH . . . . .	"	"
SCOTT, ELIZABETH . . . . .	Poughkeepsie, . . .	<i>Dutchess.</i>
SIGLER, SOPHIA . . . . .	Patterson, . . .	<i>Passaic, N. J.</i>
SHAUGHNESSY, ELIZA . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
SHORDON, ANNA . . . . .	"	"
SMITH, MARY E. . . . .	"	"
WOOD, ANNA . . . . .	"	"
WATSON, ELIZA . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
WILLARD, MARTHA J. . . . .	Marlborough, . . .	<i>Ulster.</i>
WYNN, MARY . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
WISWALL, LOUISA . . . . .	"	"
WAIT, LYDIA . . . . .	Covington, . . .	<i>Wyoming.</i>

**LIST OF GRADUATES***And other Blind persons connected with the Institution.***MALES.**

ADAM, MICHAEL,  
 ARMSTRONG, JOHN,  
 ANDREWS, HENRY.  
 BECK, JOHN,  
 BABCOCK, STEPHEN,  
 BECANEN, PHILIP,  
 BRANNELY, LAWRENCE,  
 BALCOM, IRA,  
 CRUSER, EDMUND,  
 DELANO, RANSON,  
 GRADY, JOHN,  
 HENRY, WILLIAM, W.  
 HUGHES, EDWARD,  
 HALL, EZRA,  
 HAZLETT, CHARLES,  
 JOHNSON, JAMES,  
 KING, JOEL, W.  
 KENAN, PATRICK,  
 KANE, RICHARD,  
 LASCH J. DAVID,  
 LUNNEY, HUGH,  
 MILLS, JOHN,  
 M'DERMOTT, JOHN,  
 MURPHY, THOMAS,  
 MEAD, FRANCIS,  
 O'DONNELL, PATRICK,  
 SOPER, THOMAS,  
 SULLIVAN, CHARLES,  
 STANLEY, WILLIAM,  
 THOMPSON, JAMES,  
 WATERBURY, WARREN.

**FEMALES.**

BULLOCK, CYNTHIA,  
 CONNELL, CATHARINE,  
 CROCHERON, SARAH,  
 CROSBY, FRANCES J.  
 CRUSER, ANN.  
 CUTTER, ANGELINE,  
 DAVIS, CATHARINE,  
 DENAREST, CHARITY,  
 DENNY, MARGARET,  
 DAVIS, MARTHA,  
 HUGHES, CORDELIA,  
 KENNEDY, CATHARINE,  
 MOREY, LOUISA,  
 MURPHY, ELLEN,  
 MURRAY, HELEN.  
 McMEEHAN, ELIZBETH,  
 PLUNKETT, MARY A.  
 RADLEY, ISABELLA,  
 SMITH, PHOEBE,  
 SCOTT, ESTHER,  
 SIMMONS, ELIZABETH,  
 STEWART, CATHARINE,  
 SPRUNG, JULIA,  
 WELLS, LUCRETIA,

Females,	24
Males,	31
Total,	55
Male Pupils,	62
Female Pupils,	54
Graduates and others,	55
Total,	171

## Report of the Committee on Music.

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION  
FOR THE BLIND :

*The Committee on Music respectfully*

### REPORT.

That the department under their charge has, during the past year, continued to receive their care and attention. The instrumental branch, under Prof. Reiff, and the vocal, under Prof. Root, give evidence of the value of their respective services, in the proficiency of the pupils while in the Institution and in the readiness with which their musical acquirements are made to contribute to their maintenance and support when they have graduated.

One great difficulty in the way of instructing the blind in music, your committee hope has been removed by means of the introduction of a new system of musical notation invented by Cornelius Mahoney, a former pupil of the Institution, who, by the most patient and exemplary perseverance, has succeeded in at last bringing into practical form a system, by which every pupil, who learns to read by means of the raised characters used by the blind, can readily learn to read any music that may be printed according to this method. Up to this time no blind person could learn a new piece of music without either hearing it played once or oftener, or having the music read over to him, until he should have committed it to memory. Under Mr. Mahoney's system, having once learned the rudiments of the method, which are exceedingly simple, the pupil is rendered entirely independent of any other person for learning any piece of music that may be published according to this system, however difficult the piece may be. He has it before him to study out in the same manner in which he now studies out the words in any new book, or the problems in any system of geometry printed for the blind.

Your Committee would recommend the adoption of this system by the various Blind Institutions in the United States, in order that by the greater economy, of a common Press for all, the publication of all the best music of the old masters and of contemporary authors might keep up a constant supply of subjects of study and practice for the Blind, and at a comparatively moderate cost.

All which is respectfully submitted

E. L. BEADLE,

JOHN P. CROSBY,

*Committee on Music.*

NEW YORK, December 28, 1853.

*Statement of Expenses of Committee on Music, for 1853.*

For Instructors' Salaries, . . . . .	\$1,563 25
For Music and Repairs, . . . . .	100 22
	<hr/> \$1,663 47



## Report of the Committee on Manufactures.

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND :

*The Committee on Manufactures respectfully*

### REPORT,

That the business of the department under their charge has been steadily on the increase, and with satisfactory results. After paying the salaries of the agent, shop keeper, and instructor, together with other individual charges, such as stabling, house cleaning, &c., there is a balance, as will appear in the statement annexed, in favor of the department, on the 31st December, 1853, of \$1 079 12.

It is gratifying to be able to speak with entire approbation of the conduct of Mr. Camp, the agent in charge, of the instructors, and of the adult blind in general, also of the continued excellence in the workmanship of the articles manufactured.

Your Committee regret to announce Mr. Camp's determination to resign as agent. He has acted in this capacity since January, 1850, and has ever been faithful and zealous to promote the welfare of the Institution. His loss will be greatly felt by the seeing as well as by the blind. To the latter he has been a steady and untiring friend. In his management of the affairs under his charge, both financial and mechanical, he has always been scrupulously accurate and exact. It is hoped that, in the business in which he is about to engage, he may find a more ample renumeration than with prudence could be here offered to him. It is proposed to supply the vacancy thus created by the selection of James Young, as the future Business agent. He has been known and tried in the department for three years, as Mat Instructor, and consequently has knowledge of the mode of conducting the affairs generally, as also of the customers. The several trades are, as in the previous year, the making of Door Mats in their varieties under charge of James Young, and James Hemphill, of Mattresses, Pew-cushions, Hair mittens &c., &c., under charge of Eleazer Johnson, Willow Basket work, under charge of Samuel Hutchings, Band boxes and Paper boxes of all kinds, under charge of Miss Mary Ann Kennedy—also Rag carpet weaving, and Fancy Knitting and Bead work. To these it is proposed to add the manufacturing of Curled Hair and perhaps Brush making. The noble accommodations which during the past year, have been put in the hands of this Committee cannot fail to stimulate them to renewed exertions in furthering the wishes of the Board to give employment to the industrious blind, whether graduates of the Institution or such as have by accident lost their sight at more mature years. The rooms in which the blind now work are fifty-seven feet in front, by ninety feet in depth, and are situated in the second, third and fourth stories of the most substantial building on Eighth Avenue. The cheerfulness, skill, rapidity and accuracy with which the blind manufacture their various articles, together with the spaciousness of the shops will well repay the visitors to the manufacturing department for time so occupied. Renewing to the public the promise of punctuality in the attention to all orders, and warranting that nothing

but the purest hair shall be used in the mattress department, or the best of materials for the other manufactured articles, and referring to the statement annexed, the above is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT I. MURRAY,

GEORGE F. JONES,

JOHN A. KING, JR.

*Committee on Manufactures.*



## STATEMENT

*Of the Manufacturing Department for 1853.*

**Dr.**

To Stock, &c., on hand 31 Dec. 1852, . . . . .	\$4 580 58
To Materials, purchased in 1853, . . . . .	13 955 66
To Wages, to blind and some seeing, . . . . .	9 730 58
To Salaries, and sundry expenses, . . . . .	3 682 07
To Balance, in favor of department, . . . . .	1 079 12
	<hr/>
	\$33 028 01
	<hr/>

**Cr.**

By Stock, on hand, Dec. 31, 1853, . . . . .	\$7 149 88
By Sales, in 1853, . . . . .	25 878 13
	<hr/>
	\$33 028 01
	<hr/>

The balance of amount for sales not yet collected, is payable early in the year 1854.

## Report of the Committee on Supplies.

*The Committee on Supplies beg leave to*

### REPORT,

That the system in this department continues the same as in former years, and is believed to be the best that can be devised for the speedy and regular transaction of the business of the Institution.

At the weekly visits of the Committee, the domestic arrangements are closely inspected, the requisitions of the Superintendent considered, and the bills and accounts of this officer presented and audited.

The Committee report with satisfaction, the good health of the pupils during the past year, and the general contentment and happiness of the inmates.

The expenses in this department have been as follows;

### EXPENSES

#### OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUPPLIES FOR 1853.

For groceries and provisions, . . . . .	\$9,242 90
“ dry goods and clothing, . . . . .	1,937 21
“ wages of Matron and servants, . . . . .	2,618 14
“ housekeeping articles, . . . . .	1,012 64
“ hospital expenses, . . . . .	296 27
“ fuel, . . . . .	1,548 50
“ stable expenses, . . . . .	186 13
“ postage and stationery, . . . . .	140 98
“ stage and travelling expenses, . . . . .	267 85
“ gas . . . . .	159 34
<hr/>	
	\$17,409 96
<hr/>	

Annexed is a statement of the sewing and knitting of the female pupils.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT L. CASE,  
JAMES N. COBB,  
EDWARD WOOD.

*Committee.*

LIST OF ARTICLES MADE IN THE SEWING ROOM DURING  
THE YEAR 1853.

75 sheets,	6 bosoms,
478 towels,	27 collars,
30 pillow-cases,	19 table-cloths,
31 comfortables,	40 night-gowns,
6 bed-sacks,	67 dresses,
20 " spreads,	67 chemises,
182 handkerchiefs,	22 drawers,
47 skirts,	17 pantaloons,
10 flannel wrappers,	38 hose,
19 cravats,	14 jackets,
34 aprons,	20 night-caps,
5 shirts,	20 pantaloons,

## Report of the Committee on New Building.

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION  
FOR THE BLIND:

*The Committee on New Building respectfully report*

That the additions to the Manufacturing Department on the eighth avenue are now completed. Two Buildings have been erected on the vacant lots belonging to the Institution on 8th Avenue between 33rd and 34th streets. The said buildings are each 58 feet wide, 90 feet deep and 4 stories, high—the three upper floors of each building have been constructed and arranged expressly as workshops—on the lower floor of each building are three fine stores, spacious and well lighted, and beneath are large and airy basements. Gas and Croton water are introduced on each story, and the workshops are thoroughly warmed by powerful furnaces. In the rear of each building is a well hole with patent hoist wheel. The roof of the centre or old building has also been raised, thus making the whole front of uniform height, and of course adding largely to the accommodations of the inmates. It is also the intention of your committee sometime during the ensuing month, to lower the basement and first floor of the centre building, in order to make them correspond precisely with those of the new buildings. By this alteration, two more fine stores will be obtained, also a spacious, well lighted Salesroom for the use of the Manufacturing Department of the Institution. Your committee have given much time and attention to the work from its commencement, and trust that the improvement is such as to meet the approval of the Board.

Respectfully submitted

JAMES N. COBB,	ROBERT I. MURRAY.
MAHLON DAY,	JOHN A. KING, JR.
ALFRED W. CRAVEN,	GEORGE F. JONES.

*Committee on New Building.*

## Report of the Committee on Repairs and Improvements.

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR  
THE BLIND:

*The Committee on Repairs and Improvements respectfully*  
**REPORT.**

That during the past year there has been expended \$2,199 28. During the summer, gas has been introduced throughout the Main Building, and also into the Sales Rooms and Hall of manufacturing department on 8th avenue, at a cost of \$593 32.

The Board having decided to enlarge the Manufacturing department by building on the vacant lots on 8th avenue between 33d, and 34th streets, belonging to the Institution, your Committee were directed to procure the necessary plans, estimates and specification. These having been submitted at the regular monthly meeting of the Board, held April 6th, 1853, your Committee, together with the Committee on Manufactures were appointed a joint Committee to have entire charge and direction of the proposed building on 8th avenue.

In addition to the usual and unavoidable repairs, it was found necessary to entirely relay the floor in the Girls' washroom, and also to make extensive alterations in the washing apparatus of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES N. COBB.  
MAHLON DAY,  
GEORGE F. JONES,

*Committee on Repairs and Improvements.*

## Report of the Committee on Finance.

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK  
INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND :

*The Committee on Finance respectfully*

### REPORT,

That the amount received into your treasury during the year ending 31st ult., from various sources is \$48,354 66.

The Treasurer, has disbursed during the year \$58,032 25, leaving a balance due him of \$9,677 59.

For details of the items of receipts and disbursements for the past year, your Committee refer to the Treasurer's account, and memoranda hereto annexed, and arranged in usual order.

Respectfully submitted :

ROBERT GRACIE,  
ROBERT L. CASE,  
JOHN D. OGDEN,

*Finance Committee.*

*January 1st, 1854.*

## DONATIONS.

Legacy from Sarah Bunce, per H. H. Munsell, Executor,	\$500 00
Exhibition in May, . . . . .	235 72
Contribution box at Institution, . . . . .	31 14
Edward Wood, annual subscription, . . . . .	10 00
M. F. per Rev. Dr. Knox, . . . . .	50 00
Elizabeth Idley, balance of legacy per Fredk. R. Lee, Executor, . . . . .	46 00
George F. Jones, annual subscription, . . . . .	10 00
James Bogart, per Dr. E. L. Beadle, . . . . .	20 00
Robert Gracie, annual subscription, . . . . .	10 00
Augustus Schell, do. . . . .	5 00
“A Friend,” by Robert Gracie, . . . . .	20 00
Edward L. Beadle, annual subscription, . . . . .	5 00
Mrs. J. Douglass, . . . . .	5 00
	<hr/>
	947 86

## SUND RY DONATIONS.

Hecker & Bro., . . . . .	1 barrel flour
Courrier & Enquirer, half subscription, . . . . .	5 00
Commercial Advertiser, do. . . . .	5 00
Evening Post, do. . . . .	5 00
New-York, Daily Tribune, gratis, . . . . .	6 00
do. Evangelist, do. . . . .	2 50
do. Recorder, do. . . . .	2 50
do. Churchman, do. . . . .	2 50
do. Christian Advocate, gratis, . . . . .	2 50
Albany Semi-weekly Argus, do. . . . .	4 00

NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, IN ACCOUNT WITH SILAS BROWN, TREASURER.

Cr.

		\$10,000.00	
		11,035.42	
		1,340.00	
		513.28	
		924.92	
1853.		21,427.77	
Jan. 1.		1,945.97	
To Cash paid vouchers from Committees as follows :		89.99	
COMMITTEE ON SUPPLIES.		109.45	
For groceries and provisions,.....		109.45	
" dry goods and clothing,.....		91.97	
" wages of Matron and servants,.....		86.00	
" house-keeping articles,.....		9,677.39	
" hospital expenses,.....		9,677.39	
" fuel,.....		9,677.39	
" stable expenses,.....		9,677.39	
" postage and stationery,.....		9,677.39	
" stage and travelling expenses,.....		9,677.39	
" gas expense,.....		9,677.39	
COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES.		9,677.39	
For materials,.....		9,677.39	
" wages to blind and some seeing,.....		9,677.39	
" salaries and sundry expenses,.....		9,677.39	
COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.		9,677.39	
For instructors salaries,.....		9,677.39	
" music and repairs,.....		9,677.39	
COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION.		9,677.39	
For teachers salaries,.....		9,677.39	
" books and stationery,.....		9,677.39	
COMMITTEE ON REPAIRS & IMPROVEMENTS.		9,677.39	
For general repairs,.....		9,677.39	
" gas fixtures,.....		9,677.39	
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.		9,677.39	
For Superintendent's salary, 1 year,.....		9,677.39	
" travelling expenses,.....		9,677.39	
" copying census for blind,.....		9,677.39	
" Insurance,.....		9,677.39	
" law expenses,.....		9,677.39	
" advertising donations, &c, .....		9,677.39	
To balance of Interest,.....		9,677.39	
		9,677.39	

Examined and found correct,

ROBERT GRACIE,  
ROBERT L CASE,  
JOHN D. OGDEN,  
Committee on Finance.

SILAS BROWN TREASURER.

### TERMS OF ADMISSION.

PUPILS are received as beneficiaries of the State of New-York, upon the appointment of the Superintendent of Common Schools, based upon a certificate from the Overseers of the Poor of the town where the pupil resides, in the following form :

<i>County,</i>	}
<i>New-York,</i>	

185,

We, the undersigned, Overseers of the Poor in the Town of \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New-York, do hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_, of said town, is blind. He was \_\_\_\_\_ years old on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ last; his moral character is good; he is free from all diseases other than those of the eyes; his blindness is permanent, and his faculties, other than those of sight, are good.

The name of his father (nearest relative or guardian) is \_\_\_\_\_, and the said \_\_\_\_\_ is not of sufficient pecuniary ability to pay either for the board, tuition, or clothing of the said \_\_\_\_\_, as a pupil of the New-York Institution for the Blind.

<i>Overseers of</i>	}
<i>the Poor.</i>	

Applications for admission as State pupils, from New-York or New-Jersey, must be between the ages of twelve and twenty-five years.

Pay pupils may be received, younger or older, by consent of the Board of Managers.

The charge for pay pupils, inclusive of clothing, is \$200 a year to be paid quarterly, in advance.

Each pay pupil must, on entering the Institution, be supplied by his friends with a suitable bed, pillow, two pairs of sheets, three blankets, a counterpane, and four towels.

Beneficiaries from the State of New-Jersey are admitted on the order of the Governor, based upon a certificate of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the county where the pupil resides.

The Managers of the Institution would respectfully but earnestly call the attention of the officers to whom application is made for certificates of admission to that part of the certificate relating to the *moral character and mental capacity* of the candidate. The reasons why none whose moral characters are not good should be placed in an institution like this, are too obvious to require comment; and as the Institution is a place of education, and not an asylum, none should be placed in it who are incapacitated, either physically or mentally, from receiving instruction.

#### TERMS OF ADMISSION TO THE MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT.

Any blind person of good moral character, may be admitted to work in the Manufacturing Department. Board can be obtained in the vicinity of the Institute. As soon as their proficiency will warrant it they are paid the value of their work.

#### FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

I bequeath to my executors the sum of dollars, in trust, to pay over the same in after my decease, to the person who, when the same shall be payable, shall act as Treasurer of the New-York Institution for the Blind, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of the said Institution, and under its direction.

## Superintendent's Report.

---

*To the Board of Managers.*

GENTLEMEN :

The undersigned begs leave to present his report for the year 1853.

At the close of the preceding year, the whole number of inmates of the Institution was one hundred and fifty one, of whom one hundred and four were pupils, and the remainder blind persons, employed in teaching or in the Manufactory.

The pupils now amount to one hundred and sixteen; while of the blind employed in the Manufactory or as teachers in the different departments, the number is fifty five, making in all, one hundred and seventy-one blind persons connected with the Institution.

Of the one hundred and sixteen pupils now resident with us, one hundred and eight are from the State of New-York, six from the State of New-Jersey, one from Michigan and one from Louisiana.

The New-York pupils are from the following counties :

Albany, . . . . .	1	Dutchess, . . . . .	3
Cattaraugus, . . . . .	1	Franklin, . . . . .	1
Chemung, . . . . .	1	Fulton, . . . . .	1
Chenango, . . . . .	1	Greene, . . . . .	2
Columbia, . . . . .	1	Otsego, . . . . .	2
Herkimer, . . . . .	4	Queens, . . . . .	1
Jefferson, . . . . .	1	Rensselaer, . . . . .	1
Kings, . . . . .	7	Schenectady, . . . . .	2
Livingston, . . . . .	2	Schoharie, . . . . .	1
Monroe, . . . . .	7	St Lawrence, . . . . .	2
Madison, . . . . .	1	Steuben, . . . . .	1
New-York, . . . . .	51	Tompkins, . . . . .	1
Niagara, . . . . .	1	Ulster . . . . .	2
Oneida, . . . . .	1	Wyoming, . . . . .	3
Orange, . . . . .	1	Westchester, . . . . .	2
Oswego, . . . . .	1		
Delaware, . . . . .	1	Total, . . . . .	108

Ninety-two of our pupils are supported by the State of New-York, nine by their friends, nine by the Commissioners of Emigration and six by the State of New-Jersey.

The health of our inmates during the past year has been excellent. With the exception of a lad who had been with us but two weeks, and who had been afflicted with chronic complaints of long standing; we have lost none by death. This exemption from sickness is due doubtless in part to the youth of the blind connected with our Institution, but mainly to the unwearied care bestowed by all their officers upon the diet and personal habits of those under their charge.

In the schools the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Buckland, principal teacher in the male department, has been filled by Mr. W. N. Cleveland. To this gentleman and to Miss Crofut, principal teacher in the female department, the undersigned is indebted for the effective and intelligent manner in which his plans and instructions have been carried into effect. Their firm but gentle rule of the pupils, their cordial and hearty interest in the welfare of these unfortunates, has borne its natural fruits in the universal contentment, application to study, and deep affection of the blind for their guides and officers.

The difficulties in the way of teaching the blind are great, and to surmount them much patience and capacity are necessary. The mode of instruction is oral. The text books in raised print are few, and can be used only by those whose fingers have not become callous by work. The teacher has in consequence to give them not only the principles of knowledge, but all facts, down to the most minute detail. Whatever they know comes in through the ear alone, and of course slowly and in driblets. The vast knowledge which the seeing child gets for itself of the external world, greater than it ever gains from schools or books, is to the blind a sealed mystery, till their teachers slowly and painfully spell out for them the syllables of the mighty volume. The printed book, the main arm of modern education, exists for the blind only in part. The great expense of the works in raised print, together with the limited demand, and the contracted means of American Institutions, have

shut out the blind from the range of literature which this century has opened to all their fellow beings.

These causes united, produce in our pupils a peculiarity of mind which requires a corresponding discipline. Their means of observation curtailed, a perpetual thoughtfulness takes its place. Their comprehension of principles is acute, but their acquisition of positive knowledge is laborious and tedious, for the reason that it comes solely through the inferior medium of oral communication. They have fewer avenues to the brain for the myriad facts of nature, but whatever finds an entrance is arranged with system and dealt out accordingly. All their knowledge is fixed by contemplation around the nucleus of a principle, and can be unfolded by them only in the same methodical and artificial mode. Those that have attended our public examinations, must have noticed the slow-acting, though accurate and tenacious mind of the blind. They have none of the spontaneous and heterogeneous memory of the seeing child, clear as the rill, and bubbling forth naturally with the occasion.

To counteract this constitutional tendency, to sow plentifully the seeds of science and information, to arouse the dull blood that has stagnated through long years of inaction, to make mental activity fill the place of a drowsy reflection, and to change timidity and self-distrust into a generous emulation, this is the task of their teachers; no light one it is plain, but happily, from its very nature, bringing its own inducements and rewards.

The course of studies pursued by the pupils of this Institution, and the text books used by their teachers, are as follows:

<i>1st Class,</i>	Algebra,	.	.	Loomis.
	Astronomy,	.	.	Smith.
	Arithmetic,	.	.	Thompson and raised print.
	Intellectual Philosophy,			Abercrombie.
	Moral Science,	.		Wayland.
	Natural Philosophy,	.		Olmstead.
	Natural Theology,	.		Paley.
	Logic,	.	.	Whateley.
	Chemistry,	.	.	Draper,
<i>2d Class,</i>	History,	.	.	Worcester,
	Arithmetic,	.	.	Raised print,
	Rhetoric,	.	.	Newman & Blair.
	Reading,			

	Writing,	
	Grammar, . . . .	Brown.
<i>3d Class,</i>	History, . . . .	Goodrich.
	Mental Arithmetic,	Colburn.
	Grammar, . . . .	Weed.
	Geography, . . . .	Smith.
	Reading,	
<i>4th Class,</i>	Mental Arithmetic,	Colburn.
	Geography, . . . .	Smith.
	Spelling and Defining,	Raised print.
	Reading,	
<i>5th Class,</i>	Mental Arithmetic,	Colburn.
	Reading, . . . .	Raised print.
	Spelling,	
	Geography,	
	Natural History,	

The school hours are from 8 to 12 A. M., and from 1 to 3, P. M.

The branches taught by the principal male teacher are, Algebra Arithmetic, Natural Theology, Logic, Chemistry, Geography, History, Intellectual Philosophy. The assistant male teacher has classes in Reading, Spelling, and Natural History.

Those taught by the principal teacher in the female department are, Natural and Moral Philosophy, Ancient and Modern History, Astronomy, Arithmetic, Dictionary, Reading in raised print, and Writing. The assistant female teachers have classes in History, Geography, Grammar, Spelling, Mental Arithmetic and Rhetoric.

Of these studies, their favorites, and consequently the most successful, are the more abstract and theoretical branches of education. The positive sciences, for the reasons above mentioned, drag heavily and require incessant effort on the part of their teachers. Geography is one of the most difficult, and obviously the blind man's touch is but a slow and unsafe substitute for the glance of the eye, which takes in on the instant, from maps, the relations of the earth's surface. We have a few maps and globes in common use, adapted with raised outlines for the blind, but from their complication, most of these signally fail in practical utility. We need and hope shortly to have prepared, a series in which simplicity of outline will enable the sweep of the hand to take the place in some degree of the more comprehensive vision.

In the manual labor department, the most important of the trades taught is Willow-work and Basket-making. This, from the simplicity of the material and the few mechanical implements necessary, is peculiarly the trade of the blind. But it needs considerable mechanical skill, and not all of our pupils are able to acquire it. They are also taught the making of Mattresses, Mat weaving, Band-box making, plain Sewing and ornamental Bead work. Many of our young women make their entire clothing, threading their own needles, and working with as much regularity and judgment as seeing sempstressses. A dress made by the hands of one of our pupils was exhibited last fall at the Mechanic's Fair in this city, and attracted universal attention from the delicacy and perfection of the needle-work.

Our Musical Department is in the most satisfactory condition. We still retain the services of Professors Root and Reiff, who from their long connection with the Institution, and their thorough knowledge of the peculiar mode of instruction, have rendered themselves invaluable to us. In addition to these gentlemen we have five assistant music teachers, graduates of the Institution, having charge of the Organ and Piano practice, the Band and the Choir. Lessons are also given by a teacher engaged for the especial purpose, in piano tuning. In this branch, so well adapted for the blind, we anticipate, and have already realized in part, the best results.

To Music, we find that most of our pupils would, if unrestrained, give their whole attention, to the sacrifice of all other interests. And while the undersigned is unwilling to overload this department, he still feels the absolute necessity of cultivating to the utmost whatever musical ability may be found among our inmates. Sound is the world of the blind man, and whatever of pleasure and solace music may have for others, with him, next to his religious trust, it is the great alleviator. We have found, moreover, that many of our former pupils, having little musical talent, but a natural capacity for imparting instruction, have been successful as teachers of this science, and are now supporting themselves in comfort and respectability; while those of greater musical genius easily command, on leaving us, advantageous offers as teachers, organists, and choristers.

In the manufactory, some very necessary and vital changes have been effected since the date of our last report. From the foundation of this department, it has been found expedient from time to time, to modify and improve as necessity and experience dictated, until we now hope that we have placed our business operations on their natural and permanent footing. Originally our manufacturing system was founded upon the development of the fundamental principle of the Institution, namely, to render the blind self-dependent, and independent even of the hands that once supported them; to give them a right to call themselves citizens; and to make them as happy—or as miserable, if such be their lot,—as those to whom sight is not denied. Few know but those that have them in charge, the aversion the blind have to being considered as barred out of the world; and the eagerness with which they prove that they are no longer the helpless creatures they once were, moping in corners and moaning away their melancholy lives, but active and intelligent men and women, glad to take their chance in the great race of life. To give this courageous feeling a fair field—to save them from alms-houses, or from capricious and humbling charity, in fact, as the fruition of our educational system, this department was originated.

In the outset the manufactory was an entirely separate establishment, self-supported, under charge of the Superintendent of the Institution, but with domestic officers and a household of its own. The expense of keeping up two establishments was soon found to be overwhelming, and after due trial, the whole was merged in the mother Institution. The change was justified by the retrenchment effected. In course of time, other evils not apparent in the infancy of the undertaking were developed by its growth and prosperity. The moral tone of the little community was always a matter of deep anxiety to the authorities of the Institution, and justly so, for they felt they had undertaken a very grave trust, and would be held by the public to the strictest accountability. While the numbers of the blind working men and women continued small, the difficulty could be met by great watchfulness of the habits and mode of life of the inmates, and by a jealous scrutiny of the character of applicants for admission. And we find in the religious and moral principle of our

operatives the best proof of the fulfilment of the trust. But with the success of our manufactures, applications for work from the indigent blind from this and other States, and even from the British Provinces, rapidly multiplied. These, and the annual supply of graduates from our schools, soon filled the workshops to overflowing. To meet this want, spacious workshops and ware-rooms have been built; and we are now ready to receive and provide employment for all respectable and industrious blind persons. But with this important difference.

The actual and presumptive increase of the inmates of the manufactory, places a proper moral supervision in other than working hours utterly out of the question. And with the loss of control should cease the responsibility. The work people will soon be too numerous for their officers, to use that personal and minute influence which has heretofore been so salutary, and we should shortly be driven to a strict and mechanical system of rules similar to those regulating the movements of the blind children in our schools. Now these restrictions however proper for the young, are hardly fit for people who are industriously working, and fairly paying for their support out of their earnings. Regulations of academical or military strictness could never be imposed on the inhabitants of a manufactory placed in the heart of a large city. Their natural impatience of restraint would lead to disorders for which those in charge of the Institution have no wish to become responsible, and might perhaps result in the destruction of the enterprise.

But short of such disastrous results, when we consider the expansion that lies in the future of this Institution from the natural growth of the country and its incessant immigration, we have reason to see in the above facts, the germ of a great evil. We are aware, too, that applications for admission have been made by the blind of adjoining States, which have Institutions of a similar nature of their own, but on a more vigorous system. And we have found applications from our own State remarkably increased during the past year.

These and other considerations have induced the Board of Managers to separate the domestic from the manufacturing establishment.

Those of own young people who have finished their term of pupilage, as well as the blind at large, hereafter will be furnished with employment in the workshops, but not with board or lodgiug. Arrangements have been made, by which all that were with us have already been received into private families or boarding-houses, at their discretion, without the walls of the Institute. Constant work, as far as practicable, will be provided, so as to give them abundant means of meeting all reasonable charges.

In this way alone, it is believed, can we sustain the original principle of our Institution of raising the blind to a position of independence and respectability.

\* \* \* \* \*

In receiving the blind adult into the bosom of the Institution, it was found lay the difficulty of this department. When once admitted, the plea,—to the credit of human nature perhaps—would always be received, “he is inefficient, he is a tax upon us, but he is meritorious, and does his best, and we cannot turn him out upon the world.” Through this feature our Manufacturing Department was in danger of sinking into a mere asylum or house of refuge, not only for the homeless of this class, but for those whose friends were abundantly able to provide for them, and what was worse for those who could provide for themselves. For with this snug harbor in view, too many would allow their natural love of independence to be sapped by the temptations to a life of ease and irresponsibility. The undersigned is therefore convinced that the alternative and sole remedy for this abandonment of the noble principle of our Institution is to require the blind workman to seek his home elsewhere, and that in our workshops he shall find employment, and the means of providing for that home; that the department be organized on the same business footing with ordinary establishments of this nature; and that the operative find his comforts, nay his very support depend upon his *efficiency*, and not upon his moral worth and correct intentions.

I see no mean between the mere asylum, and the self-supporting system which is here recommended. No plan can be adopted to tax to the utmost the energies of the blind, which at the same time

undertakes to supply their deficient earnings (individually), by the proceeds of a charitable fund. With the consciousness of something to fall back upon, the spur of necessity with its grand moral influence is lost. Expressly, our aim is to redeem an unfortunate race from the physical and moral rust of inactivity. To allow a different element to enter, namely, to admit those who are worthy but, inefficient, would be at the expense of the motives for exertion. Those who know that the real evil of blindness is not the mere loss of sight, nor the penury so often its companion, but the wretchedly stagnant life, the morbid mind turned in upon itself, the whining and ingratitude, which are too frequently the results of utter dependence, must feel that a system which remedies these ills in part is far better than a more comprehensive benevolence which gives to all the blind a comfortable support, but leaves them querulous, repining and weak.

This modification of our industrial system does not preclude the possibility of assisting the blind in a manner both prudent and in accordance with principle. *A fixed per centage* above what is paid seeing workmen in the manufacture of the same article, has none of the evils above mentioned, and gives encouragement, while it still leaves the comforts and mode of living of the blind to be determined by their industry. It leaves to the indolent their wholesome dread of the alms-house, while it serves as a stimulant to by far the greater proportion, who by raising the average of work, will speedily reduce the bounty to its minimum rate.

We have alluded above to the enlargement of our workshops. By money borrowed on bond and mortgage the lots owned by the Institution on the Eighth Avenue have been covered with a substantial row of buildings. They are four stories in height, and ninety feet in depth. The upper floors are to be used for the purposes of the manufactory, while the ground tier will be leased as stores.

The undersigned asks the attention of the Board to the current expenses and annual supplies of the Institution. The yearly stipend for each pupil was fixed by the Legislature some twenty years since, at one hundred and fifty dollars, twenty of which was paid

by the county for clothing. Out of this we have to clothe our pupils respectably, keep up our household establishment, pay the salaries of our large corps of teachers, and carry on our manufacturing operations. We are also forced to keep our buildings in perfect repair, and dress our pupils with much regard to neatness of appearance; for the Institutions in this city are objects of great attention, not only to all citizens of the United States, but to foreigners. On some days we have three or four hundred visitors in our halls, and seldom an hour passes without the presence of strangers from all parts of the globe, closely inspecting our household and educational systems. While from these and other causes our expenses have been somewhat increased, the actual value of the State stipend has meantime diminished. The rise in price of the necessities of life, consequent upon the general prosperity, renders our outlay unavoidably greater than our receipts,—which in the beginning barely sufficed for our wants—and for many years we have been driven to the government for especial appropriations to meet our regular expenses. In other States, the Institutions, beside their endowments—of which we have none at present available—receive a larger stipend. In Pennsylvania the charge is two hundred dollars for a pupil, and this is the payment we ourselves receive from the state of New Jersey for those of its blind it sends to our schools.

It is therefore earnestly recommended to the Board that application be made at an early period to the Legislature for an increase of the stated annual stipend.

There are many questions of the peculiarities of the blind which in a paper of this nature cannot be gone into at length, but which from their interest to the public and in a psychological point of view, I am unwilling to pass over in silence. I will briefly mention a few of these. From the certainty with which the blind distinguish otherwise than by touch the presence, not only of human beings but of inanimate bodies, the impression has arisen of their possessing a sense or at least perceptions unknown to the seeing. Intelligent blind persons state that, when in the fields or on country roads where from a moment's confusion they have lost their bearings, to

turn and contemplate the horizon will speedily restore them to the knowledge of their local position, so that they can tell with accuracy the direction of the hills or mountains as well as of the low-lying ground and water of the landscape. Even where the country is unknown to them, inequalities of ground are noticed with equal precision, but at a less distance. Ordinarily in the streets they can distinguish all open spaces among buildings, and are able to avoid objects not less than breast high, and at least a foot high in diameter. On entering a room they perceive at once whether it is entirely empty or contains a few or many persons.

While it is possible that large masses of matter may affect perceptibly, by magnetic and electric currents, the human frame, it is easier to trace these phenomena to an intensely cultivated sense of hearing. The resistance or wafting of the atmosphere as we approach small objects, the changes in the voice or footfall, the minute echoes, the varying sounds of the currents of air, as they draw down valleys or through tree-tops or sweep abruptly over rocks and hills, all these are a world unknown to ourselves, but opened by their needs to the sharpened senses of the blind. Whatever the cause, it is pleasant to know that the glories of the outward world, with their good influences on the heart are revealed even to the blind, and that nature speaks hopefully to them in tones they well understand.

Another characteristic of the blind consequent of course upon their disability is their singular introversion of mind. Turned in upon themselves from the busy life around, with which they mingle in doubt and distrust, unable to keep pace with the seeing, the world of their consciousness grows all the more real as the actual world of men and events becomes shadowy and dreamlike. Their own lot in life, their own feelings, their prospects, are always uppermost, and create in them an unconscious egotism, wearisome, though free from selfishness. Through inaction this sometimes turns into a brooding melancholy, but where, as in this Institution, a way is opened for exertion, it gives them a pertinacity of character, and a perseverance against all their discouragements.

\* \* \* \* \*

But most striking of all is the fact that between the educated blind and the seeing, little difference is found in their enjoyment of life. In that higher happiness which comes from the active occupation of all the faculties, undoubtedly the blind man is deficient; but in habitual cheerfulness, he is as blessed as most of his fellow-men. Neither greatly elated nor greatly depressed, disposed to make the most of his narrow compass of activity, never mourning for a sense of which he has no comprehension, blindness finds much of that compensation which Divine love reserves for every evil. Mainly the distinction is in the *rate* of living. Their timid groping footsteps necessarily lead to inactive habits and sluggish blood, and their deficient perceptions want the stimulus which the full senses give the mind; thought and feeling flow slowly but serenely; and their lives pass without excitements or anxieties. Their clouded eyeballs give the countenance a blank, sombre look, which is often mistaken for sadness; but education in youth and occupation and self-dependence in after life have given them similar capacities of happiness with the seeing.

At least their guides and teachers acknowledge the cheerful influences of their companionship. These find nothing gloomy or painful in habitual intercourse with the blind, and always abandon with reluctance the Institution life. Habit doubtless might produce the same effect by blunting our sense of the privation, were it not that constantly new incidents bring it fresh to our notice; as for instance to be awakened at a late hour of the night, and to find in the darkness a number of the younger children busy with their books and studies, or seated at the pianos. To these sightless young creatures day and night were distinctions without meaning. From such calls upon our sympathies, and from the docility and cheerful good nature of the inmates, the officers of the Institute become warmly attached to them, and view with regret the expiration of their terms of pupilage.

At the New-York Institute took place during the last vacation, a convention of superintendents and teachers of the blind. This was the first meeting of the kind ever held in the United States. Delegates from fourteen different States were present; two only, having

Institutions for the blind, were unrepresented. The occasion was one of grateful interest to the philanthropist. It must be recollect that many of these states were new and thinly settled, and only a few years since the scenes of savage life, with its selfishness, and its destitution, and its hard fate for the afflicted of nature. These are now building, among other works of public benevolence, commodious schools and workshops for the blind, suitable not only for the present, but for future need. This is the development of the gentle principles of christianity, bearing fruit to the very limits of civilization. Many of the gentlemen having charge of these young establishments are themselves blind, and graduates of the sister Institutions of the Eastern States.

The immediate object of the convention was to make application to Congress for a donation for a permanent printing fund for the use of the blind. The narrow means of the State Institutions, the cost of printing where the demand is necessarily so limited, the need of concerted efforts and of uniformity of type and execution, and the fact that the blind are shut out from the system of public instruction to which the general government has contributed so largely by grants of public lands, seemed to render this our natural and just resort.

This Convention was held on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of August, and was called to order by Wm. Chapin, Esq., of Philadelphia, who nominated T. Colden Cooper, Superintendent of the New-York Institution, as Chairman *pro tem.*, and Jas. S. Brown, Esq., of Louisiana, as Secretary.

All Superintendents of Institutions for the Blind, and Teachers of the Blind in such Institutions, were declared entitled to seats in this Convention.

The following gentlemen were then appointed the permanent Officers of the Convention :

For President—DR. S. G. HOWE.

For Secretary—T. COLDEN COOPER.

The delegates present were :

S. G. Howe, Director Perkins Institution, Mass.; Wm. Chapin, Principal Pennsylvania Institution; T. Colden Cooper, Superintendent of New-York

Institution ; R. E. Hart, Superintendent Ohio Institution ; Dr. I. Rhoades, Superintendent Illinois Institution ; Dr. Merillat, Superintendent Virginia Institution ; J. M. Sturtevant, Superintendent Tennessee Institution ; W. H. Churchman, Superintendent Indiana Institution ; C. B. Woodruff, Superintendent Wisconsin Institution ; J. S. Brown, Superintendent Louisiana Institution ; Samuel Bacon, Principal Iowa Asylum ; Henry Dutton, Principal Georgia Institution ; David Loughery, Principal Maryland Institution ; Edwd. Wheelan, Superintendent Missouri Institution ; B. W. Fay, Teacher Indiana Institution : A. Reiff, Teacher New-York Institution ; J. W. Bligh, Teacher New-York Institution.

Invitations were extended to Messrs Russ, Jones, and Chamberlain, former Superintendents of the New York Institution for the Blind, to attend the meetings of the Convention, and to share its deliberations.

A resolution was also passed inviting the Managers of the New York Institution for the Blind, and Mr. E. W. H. Ellis, Trustee of the Indiana Institute, to attend the sittings of this Convention.

The Convention then proceeded to business, and discussed these several resolutions and propositions submitted by the Committee or by individuals. An animated debate ensued, in which several blind persons, educated in the various institutions, took prominent parts, and gave proof of their talents and acquirements.

The following resolutions were finally adopted, as expressing the views of the Convention :

*Resolved*, That, whereas most of the States of the Union are provided with institutions for the education of the Blind, this Convention representing such institutions recommend the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That a permanent provision, in aid of the Education of the Blind and for a suitable library in the raised letters should be regarded as a subject of national concern.

*Resolved*, That, as Congress has appropriated large portions of the public lands for general education, from the benefits of which the Blind have been and necessarily are excluded, their claim for a portion of the proceeds of these lands to aid in their education is both just and reasonable.

*Resolved*, That a memorial in behalf of the Institutions for the Blind in the United States be presented to the next session of Congress, asking for national aid by an appropriation of public land—a portion to be equitably ap-

plied to all the States for the education of their Blind, and a portion for a specific fund for printing books in raised letters.

*Resolved*, That Messrs Howe, Chapin, Cooper, Brown and Churchman be a Committee to prepare such memorial, previous to the 1st day of January next.

*Resolved*, That it will be expedient for a delegation of pupils from several Institutions to visit Washington on the presentation of the memorial, to give public illustration of the success of the system of instructing the blind.

*Resolved*, While this Convention would not discourage the use of any type or character now in existence, they decidedly recommend a uniform type or letter for all future publications for the Blind.

*Resolved*, That the "Boston letter," so called, in which the great bulk of books for the Blind have been printed, be preferred as the standard type for all future books printed for the Blind, subject to the amendments proposed in the following resolution.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three, including the President of this Convention, be appointed at this meeting to examine the "Boston Letter," to ascertain whether any alteration in any of said letters be expedient, and if so to recommend its general adoption.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chair, to consider upon and report to the next Convention a plan for the publication of a periodical expressly devoted to the advancement of education among the Blind.

*Resolved*, That such Committee, if they find it practicable to procure the publication of such periodical as a private enterprise, be authorized, in behalf of this Convention, to secure the commencement of the same under their own general supervision.

*Resolved*, That in the event of the commencement of such a publication, the instructors and pupils in all existing Institutions for the Blind, be invited to contribute to its columns.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to correspond with the "American Bible Society" with a view of obtaining from said Society a copy of the New Testament and of the Psalms for every blind person who shall present to them a certificate of the Principal of the Institution where he or she was educated, that he or she can read, and is unable to pay for such book.

*Resolved*, That this Convention do not approve of the recent method of binding the Bible for the blind, by the "Bible Society," which unites the

leaves so as to present the printing on both sides of the leaf and accordingly suggests the expediency of the Bible being bound as formerly, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the officers of the Bible Society.

Messrs. Wheelan, Churchman and Sturtevant presented a report upon Mr. Mahony's system of musical notation, which after some debate, was adopted by the Convention.

*Resolved*, That this Convention recommend to the various Institutions for the Blind, and to all blind persons interested in the subject of music, the new system of Notation devised by Mr. Mahony, as possessing many advantages

*Resolved*, That Mr. Mahony merits the encouragement of this Convention in his laudable efforts to supply this desideratum in the education of the blind.

The question of Discipline in Schools for the Blind, was discussed at some length, and it was remarkable that all the speakers who were blind, insisted that blind children should be subjected to an equally strict discipline as seeing children. It was finally

*Resolved*, That the fact of blindness should make no difference in the discipline of children.

A highly interesting debate followed on the necessity of connecting manufacturing departments with all Institutions for the Blind, and it was

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Convention every Institution should offer employment to all its graduates of good moral character.

It was then resolved that a Committee be appointed to call another Convention of Superintendents and Teachers of the Blind, and that in such Convention each Institution shall be entitled to but one vote.

Mr. Churchman was invited to furnish to the next Convention an essay upon the best plan of public buildings for the Blind.

The thanks of the Convention were then offered to the Directors, Superintendent, and other officers of the New-York Institution for the Blind, for the hospitalities tendered, and courtesies shown the members of this Convention during its session.

The undersigned cannot close this report without reverting to the deaths of our respected President, Anson G. Phelps, and of Mr.

Cyrenius Beers. These old and well tried friends of the blind were gathered in the fullness of years and of good works. But their active benevolence will make their loss long and painfully felt by all connected with this Institution. By myself they will be gratefully remembered for their many acts of personal attention, and kindness.

Respectfully submitted,

T. COLDEN COOPER,

*Superintendent.*

Blind, B. T. Trinity Library  
New York from J. G. Adams.

## NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MANAGERS

OF THE

# New-York Institution for the Blind,

TO THE

Serial

N

19th

1854

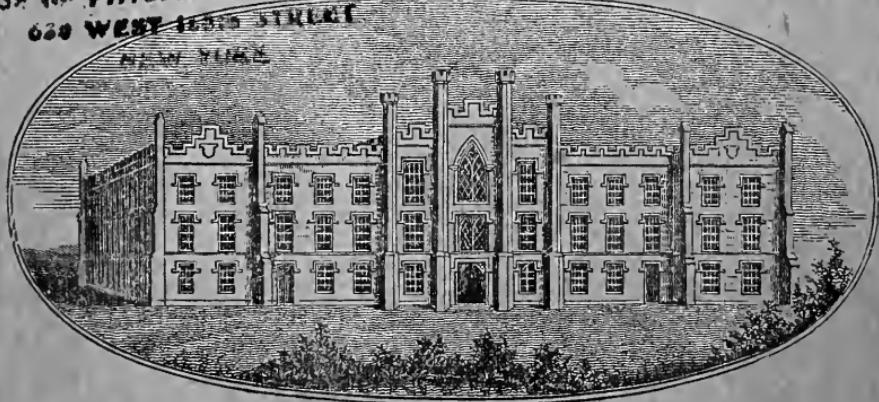
LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE:

LIBRARY

LIBRARY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

620 WEST 14th STREET

NEW YORK



MADE IN CONFORMITY TO LAW,

JANUARY, 1855,

FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR.

WITHDRAWN

NEW-YORK:

JAMES EGBERT, PRINTER, 374 PEARL STREET,

1855.



NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

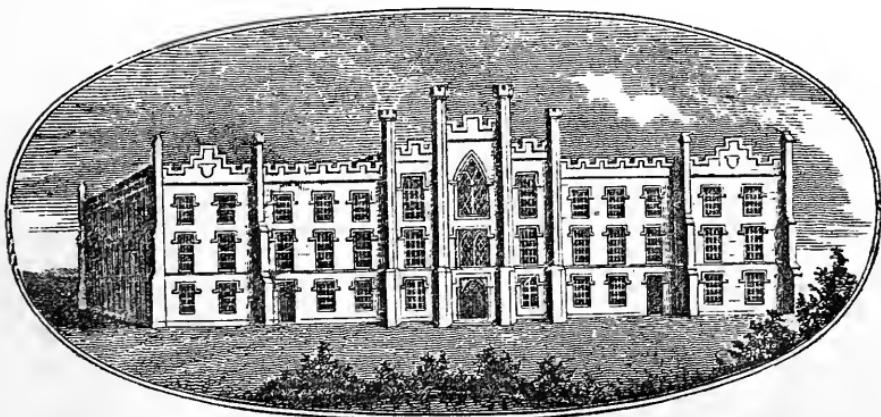
M A N A G E R S

OF THE

New-York Institution for the Blind,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE:



MADE IN CONFORMITY TO LAW,

JANUARY, 1855,

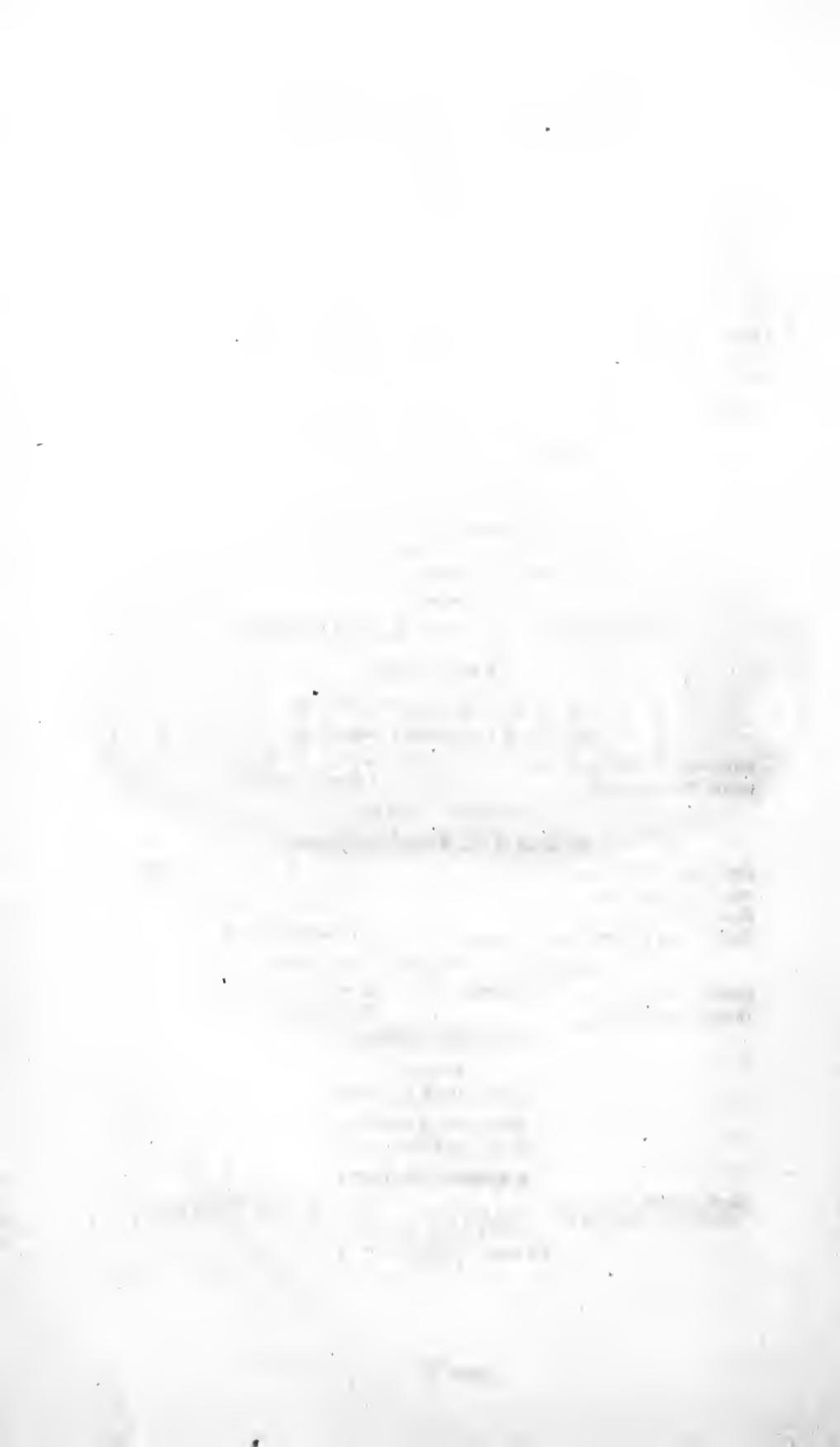
FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR,

THE PROPERTY  
OF THE  
NEW YORK  
SOCIETY LIBRARY

NEW-YORK:

JAMES EGBERT, PRINTER, 374 PEARL STREET,

1855.



# Managers of the Institution

For 1855.

SILAS BROWN,  
GEORGE F. ALLEN,  
ISAAC WOOD, M. D.  
ROBERT GRACIE,  
ROBERT I. MURRAY,  
ROBERT L. CASE,  
JOHN P. CROSBY,  
AUGUSTUS SCHELL,  
GEORGE F. JONES,  
JOHN G. ADAMS, M. D.

GOVERNEUR M. OGDEN,  
JAMES N. COBB,  
EDWARD L. BEADLE, M. D.  
EDWARD WOOD,  
JOHN D. OGDEN, M. D.  
ALFRED W. CRAVEN,  
ANSON G. PHELPS,  
G. T. OLYPHANT,  
WILLIAM M. ABBATT,  
W. CURTISS NOYES.

## OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.

ISAAC WOOD, M. D. *President.*  
ROBERT GRACIE. *Vice President.*  
GEORGE F. ALLEN, *Recording Secretary.*  
JOHN P. CROSBY, *Corresponding Secretary.*  
SILAS BROWN, *Treasurer.*

## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION

For 1855.

T. COLDEN COOPER, *Superintendent.*

### Teachers in the Literary Department.

WILLIAM N. CLEVELAND, | MARY J. CROFUT,  
ADAM McCLELLAND. | LOUISA MOWREY.

FRANCES J. CROSBY.

### Teachers in the Musical Department.

ANTHONY REIFF, (Instrumental.) | GEORGE F. ROOT, (Vocal.)  
CHARLES HAZLET, " | CATHARINE KENNEDY, "  
EZRA HALL, " | CATHARINE CONNELL, "  
CORNELIUS MAHONEY, " | ANGELINE CUTTER, "

### Teachers in the Mechanical Department.

JAMES YOUNG, (Agent & Instructor.) | SAMUEL HUTCHINGS,  
JAMES HEMPHILL, | ELEAZER JOHNSON,

MARY ANN KENNEDY.

### Matron.

Mrs. SARAH S. AMES.

### Attending Physician.

J. W. G. CLEMENTS, M. D.

### Consulting Physicians.

ISAAC WOOD, M. D. | JAMES C. BLISS, M. D.

### Consulting Surgeon.

ABRAM DUBOIS, M. D.

THE PROPERTY  
OF THE  
NEW YORK  
SOCIETY LIBRARY

# Standing Committees.

For 1855.

---

## Committee on Finance.

ROBERT GRACIE, | JOHN D. OGDEN,  
ROBERT L. CASE.

## Committee on Instruction.

GEORGE F. ALLEN, | AUGUSTUS SCHELL,  
EDWARD L. BEADLE, M. D.,

## Committee on Music.

JOHN P. CROSBY, | JOHN G. ADAMS, M. D.  
ALFRED W. CRAVEN.

## Committee on Manufactures.

ROBERT I. MURRAY, | SILAS BROWN,  
GEORGE F. JONES, | G. T. OLYPHANT,  
WILLIAM M. ABBATT.

## Committee on Supplies.

ROBERT L. CASE, | EDWARD WOOD,  
WILLIAM M. ABBATT.

## Committee on Repairs and Improvements.

GEORGE F. JONES, | G. T. OLYPHANT,  
WILLIAM CURTISS NOYES.

## Committee on Chapel.

SILAS BROWN, | ROBERT GRACIE,  
EDWARD L. BEADLE, | JOHN G. ADAMS,  
GOVERNEUR M. OGDEN, | ANSON G. PHELPS.  
WILLIAM CURTISS NOYES.

THE PROPERTY  
OF THE  
NEW YORK  
SOCIETY LIBRARY

## REPORT.

---

TO THE HONORABLE THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE  
ON NEW-YORK:

THE Managers of the New-York Institution for the Blind, respectfully present this, their Nineteenth Annual Report.

The Institution, they are glad to be able to state, shows every year an increasing usefulness. Its system of instruction, mechanical and mental, has now been tested by long experience, and its pupils, scattered throughout the State, manifest by their industry and intelligence the benefit which even the blind derive from education. As mechanics and instructors they compete in many cases with the seeing; in music their want of sight, though an impediment, is not a bar to success, and they not unfrequently, on leaving the Institution, command at once good situations as Organists, Choristers, and Professors of Music.

Not only as the means of future independence, but in its immediate physical and moral results, the course of training pursued at the Institution is of great value. It provides a sufficiency of exercise, so difficult under

other circumstances to procure for the blind, establishes his health, and vivifies the whole man, by furnishing him motives for exertion. The blind, before and after leaving our Institution, are widely different beings.

But though as a general fact, our pupils leave the Institution, with an education, which would enable them under proper circumstances, to earn a livelihood, yet it must never be forgotten, that blindness is an irreparable privation, and that though the cases are not infrequent, of those who, gifted with unusual ability, or remarkable strength of character, or an uncommonly fortunate concurrence of circumstances are able to secure their own support unaided by others, yet in the great mass, the want of sight is so great a disadvantage in the sharp competition of trade, that some extraneous aid is absolutely necessary for the blind workman, and more especially when to want of sight is superadded, as it generally is, an absolute want of means. Most wisely and benevolently, therefore, did your honorable body amend our charter, and in addition to the instruction of blind pupils declare that this institution is designed "*also for the purpose of giving an asylum and EMPLOYMENT for other blind persons,*" and made an appropriation to "*be applied by the managers of the institution to the erection of workshops, warerooms, dormitories and other buildings necessary for providing an asylum and employment for the blind.*" This duty, so devolved upon them, the Managers have faithfully met, the appropriation has been applied with the strictest economy to the erection of the necessary

workshops, warerooms and other buildings ; they have organized and established a department providing for the adult blind by giving them employment, and enabling them to support themselves and their families, and very encouraging has been their success so far as the blind themselves are concerned ; numbers of blind men and women have been made happy, comfortable and respectable, by giving them, not a mere asylum, not a depressing dependence upon charity, but employment—the opportunity to earn their own bread by their own industry. But unfortunately the universal commercial embarrassments has affected this department of the Institution, as it has all other manufacturing establishments. It has stopped our sales, and cut short our only means of sustaining this most important and interesting branch of the Institution : for it must be remembered that the Institution has no capital whatever ; and when instead of the returns of sales, it finds itself with a large stock of manufactured goods on hand, its means of continuing its operations are at once at an end—and the sad consequence has been, that we have been compelled to curtail to a large extent our manufacturing department, and many worthy blind persons have been thrown out of employment.

The Managers, most respectfully, and yet most earnestly, press the claims of this unfortunate class upon the attention of your honorable body. The destitute have claims, which all admit ; the industrious have a right to ask for employment, but when to industry and des-

titution blindness is added, the appeal is irresistible—and it is never to be forgotten, that by providing him employment, the support of the blind workman is secured in the way very much the least expensive to the public; and that by not providing it, the burden is not avoided but increased, and the blind instead of being enabled to provide for himself, is forced to become a pensioner on the public charity, without the ability to make any return.

The Managers, therefore, most respectfully solicit from your honorable body, such an appropriation as will put this most important part in their Institution on a firm and permanent footing.

The Managers, also, respectfully call the attention of your honorable body to the fact, that the number of State pupils now in the Institution is fast approaching the number provided for by law, there being only twelve vacancies, which will no doubt be soon filled up by the numerous applicants for admission. The Managers, therefore, respectfully solicit such an extension of the number of State pupils, as will enable them to provide, so far as the capacities of the Institution will allow, for the admission of all applicants duly qualified.

The Managers have the melancholy duty of recording the death of their esteemed associate MAHLON DAY, who was lost in the disastrous wreck of the Arctic. They annex copies of resolutions expressive of their sincere respect for his moral worth, and of their regret for the loss of his benevolent co-operation.

For a detailed statement of the history and condition of the Institution during the past year, the Board respectfully refer to the report of their Superintendent, Mr. T. COLDEN COOPER, and of the several departments, to the reports of the several Standing Committees, the Treasurer and Physician; copies of which are hereunto annexed.

ISAAC WOOD, PRESIDENT.

GEORGE F. ALLEN, SECRETARY.

---

*Resolutions adopted by the Board of Managers, upon the death of Mr. MAHLON DAY.*

*Resolved,* That this Board have heard with deep regret the death of MAHLON DAY, who lost his life on board the late steamer Arctic, for many years one of its efficient managers, and a devoted friend.

*Resolved,* That we offer our sincere condolence to his family, and humbly trust, that, in this "their hour of trial," they may find support from Him, "who rides upon the whirlwind, and directs the storm."

*Resolved,* That the sad and sudden manner of his death, is a solemn warning to us who are left, to watch, "for in an hour that we know not, the Son of Man cometh."

*Resolved,* That these Resolutions be placed on the Minutes, and a copy sent to the family.



## Superintendent's Report.

---

*To the Board of Managers.*

GENTLEMEN :

The undersigned begs leave to present his Report for the year 1854.

At the close of the preceding year, the number of inmates of the Institution, was one hundred and seventy-one: of these, one hundred and sixteen were pupils; the rest were blind adults, employed in the schools or in the manufactory.

Since then, the pupils have increased to one hundred and forty-two, and the blind work-people and teachers to sixty-three.

The whole number of blind persons thus receiving education, or the means of support, through the medium of the Institute, is two hundred and five. Of the one hundred and forty-two pupils, one hundred and sixteen are beneficiaries of the State of New-York, six are supported by the State of New-Jersey, thirteen by their friends, two by the Commissioners of Emigration, and five are received gratuitously by the Institution. One hundred and thirty-two of these pupils are from the State of New-York, six from New Jersey, one from Connecticut, one from Alabama, one from Louisiana, and one from Canada.

The New-York pupils are from the following Counties:—

Albany, - - - .	1	Oneida, - - - -	2
Cattaraugus, - - - -	1	Ontario, - - - -	2
Chemung, - - - -	1	Oswego, - - - -	1
Cayuga, - - - -	1	Otsego, - - - -	2
Chenango, - - - -	1	Queens, - - - -	1
Columbia, - - - -	1	Rockland, - - - -	1
Cortland, - - - -	2	Rensselaer, - - - -	1
Delaware, - - - -	2	Suffolk, - - - -	1
Dutchess, - - - -	1	Schenectady, - - - -	3
Erie, - - - -	2	Seneca, - - - -	1
Franklin, - - - -	1	St. Lawrence, - - - -	4
Greene, - - - -	3	Schoharie, - - - -	1
Herkimer, - - - -	2	Steuben, - - - -	1
Jefferson, - - - -	1	Tompkins, - - - -	1
Kings, - - - -	10	Ulster, - - - -	1
Monroe, - - - -	7	Wyoming, - - - -	4
Madison, - - - -	1	Westchester, - - - -	1
New-York, - - - -	64	Warren, - - - -	1
Niagara, - - - -	1		
		Total, - - -	132

Since the date of the last Report, we have lost three of our young people by death—Patrick Slattery, aged twenty-one; Mary Green, aged sixteen; and Theresa Herman, aged twelve years. With these unfortunate exceptions, the inmates have enjoyed excellent health. With little serious sickness, with not a single case of cholera at a time when the epidemic filled the country with its ravages, we have truly cause to be grateful to the Divine Love, that has guarded these helpless children.

In our schools, the course of instruction so long tried at this Institution is still maintained. Books in raised print are provided for the large number whose delicacy of touch enables them to read with ease; Arithmetic is taught with the aid of movable type in reticulated frames in place of slates; and Geography with maps and globes in raised outlines. But, as there are many whose sense of touch is too dull to use with advantage the print for the blind, the teaching is mainly oral. Nothing can compensate to the student for the want of the free use of books. But the long term of pupilage—seven years—makes up in some degree for this loss, and the attainments of our blind youth are highly satisfactory. They

are really wonderful, compared with the neglected mental state of the blind before the era of institutions for their relief.

In the management of the schools, some slight but beneficial changes have been made. The pupils, formerly divided into five classes, and taught at different hours in the morning and afternoon, are now arranged in four classes only, and are all under instruction at the same time—from eight till twelve in the morning, having now four instead of three hours study. In this way, and from our increased numbers, the classes are swelled in size, and a novel and encouraging vivacity is gained in their recitations, so desirable and yet so difficult with the blind. Weekly examinations are held in the chapel. The pupils are assembled in a body, and classes selected at the moment by the Superintendent for examination. The proficiency of each pupil becomes public, and he is judged not only by his officers, but, as in after life, by his fellows. This supersedes the system of school reports, and of school rewards and testimonials, always difficult and invidious, too frequently assumed by the student to be unjust. The undersigned is glad to state, that he observes, on these occasions and during his constant visits to the school-rooms, an ambitious desire of improvement among the pupils, and a very earnest spirit in their teachers.

The list of studies, with the text-books used by the teachers, is as follows:—

<i>1st Class,</i>	Astronomy,	-	-	-	Smith.
	Intellectual Philosophy,	-	-	-	Abercrombie.
	Moral Science,	-	-	-	Wayland.
	Chemistry,	-	-	-	Draper.
	Arithmetic,	-	-	-	Thompson and raised print.
	Political Economy,	-	-	-	Say and Wayland.
	English Literature.				
	Physical Geography,	-	-	-	Somerville.
	Natural Theology,	-	-	-	Paley.
	Evidences of Christianity,	-	-	-	Paley and Alexander.
	Butler's Analogy.				
	Reading and Writing.				
<i>2d Class,</i>	Natural Philosophy,	-	-	-	Olmsted,
	Outlines of Ancient History,	Bloss.			
	Grammar,	-	-	-	Weld.
	Natural History,	-	-	-	Raised print.
	Reading and Writing,				

<i>3d Class,</i>	Elementary Chemistry,	-	Brewer.
Geography,	-	-	Smith.
Arithmetic,	-	-	Thompson.
Spelling and Defining.			
Reading and Writing.			
<i>4th Class,</i>	History,	-	Dickens.
Spelling,	-	-	Raised print.
Arithmetic,			
Geography.			
Reading and Writing.			

The household establishment is arranged to give the blind every comfort, but also to teach them to dispense, for the most part, with personal assistance. Thus, the children at table are under the immediate care of their matron, but they soon learn to cut their own food, and otherwise to conduct themselves at meals with as much neatness and propriety as seeing youth. Their dressing-rooms, dormitories and wash-rooms are planned with the same view; and the domestic attendance is no larger than in ordinary academies of equal size.

In the daily routine of duty, the inmates rise at half-past six, hear morning prayers at seven, breakfast, and attend the schools from eight to twelve; then dine; and from one to five are employed in the shops, where they are taught to manufacture baskets, mats, mattresses, carpeting and band-boxes. The females are also taught plain sewing, various kinds of fancy knitting and bead work. The senior and junior singing classes are engaged, on alternate days, from half-past four to six. At seven, the pupils are assembled in the chapel, to listen to a course of reading; and at half-past eight, the roll is called for evening prayers.

The choir or band then practice till bed-time, at ten o'clock. Lessons on the piano and other instruments are given to all in turn during the day and evening.

On Sunday, there is public worship in the chapel in the morning and afternoon; mid-day, a Sabbath school; in the evening, a bible class; and morning and evening prayers.

Thus, with mind and body employed and strengthened, with no idle time for repining, the blind child finds restored to him the con-

tentment and even gayety of youth ; and were this all, it would be no trifling good effected.

But, when our pupils are graduated, they have it in their power, under ordinary circumstances, and with the assistance that young persons need from their friends for a start in life, to support themselves by their own labor ; and some as music teachers, piano-tuners, and choristers, have received very constant and profitable employment.

The manufactory is an extension of the work department, to meet the wants of those graduates who, friendless as well as sightless, had no home but the benign Institution which sheltered them. These found board and lodging in the vicinity, and were maintained by work given them at prices regulated with a view to their support. Their numbers were soon increased by persons who had lost their sight by accidents in mature life, and with health, strength, mechanical skill and habits of industry, asked, not for alms, but for the means of earning bread for their families. About sixty blind persons have in this way been receiving from two to six dollars a week, according to their skill and the kind and quantity of employment furnished them. But the business pressure of the times has borne hard upon this, equally with all other manufacturing establishments. A large stock of goods has accumulated, upon the avails of which depend the means of buying fresh material. Every effort has been used to keep our blind operatives in work. Money has been borrowed to a prudent extent ; the Treasurer of the Institute is also largely in advance to it ; but our outside blind are at last thrown out of employment.

Where men struggle against the evil of blindness, and patiently toil to keep their families by their side and beyond the need of public charity, they certainly present claims, almost irresistible, for the means of uninterrupted labor. It is, therefore, respectfully suggested to your honorable body, that application be made to the Legislature, at its approaching session, for an appropriation to place this department above the risks and fluctuations of business.

The undersigned would also call attention to the limitation by law of our pupils to one hundred and twenty-eight. This number

is already almost reached, and there are numerous applicants for admission. As there appears every reason why the benefits of the Institution should be extended to all blind children of the proper age, it is respectfully recommended, that this be included in the objects of application to the Legislature.

The closing months of the year have been saddened to us by the loss of your honored associate, Mr. Mahlon Day. When the certainty and manner of his death reached those who had been the objects of his benevolence, their awe and regret were strongly manifested. His kind tones and sterling qualities will be long remembered.

Respectfully submitted.

T. COLDEN COOPER,

*Superintendent.*

## Report of the Committee on Instruction.

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE  
BLIND :

*The Committee on Instruction respectfully*

### RE P O R T ,

That this department is conducted on the same principles as in former years. No change has been thought desirable in the mode of instruction so long and usefully pursued. But the practical regulation of the schools and classes has been varied somewhat from the previous system, and, it is thought with the best results. The period of daily work and study has been increased from six to eight hours, giving time for additional branches not heretofore taught at this Institution.

These are Geology, Political Economy, Physical Geography, Natural Theology, Evidences of Christianity, and the Analogy between Natural and Revealed Religion. Weekly examinations also are held by the Superintendent, when the pupils are assembled in the chapel and closely examined on their studies of the previous week. From this and minor arrangements much zealous feeling has been produced in the pupils, and encouragement to their teachers. The department is believed to be in a thoroughly efficient and prosperous condition.

The usual annual exhibition was held in May, at the Broadway Tabernacle, before a large audience, who appeared much gratified by the exercises.

For the number and names of students your committee respectfully refer to the following statement.

The amounts expended under the supervision of this committee are as follows :

For Teachers' Salaries,	.	.	.	\$1,083 23
For Books, Printing &c.,	.	.	.	223 40
				<hr/>
				\$1,306 63

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE F. ALLEN,  
AUGUSTUS SCHELL,  
E. L. BEADLE,

*Committee on Instruction.*

## LIST OF PUPILS.

## M A L E S.

Names.	Town.	County,
ANTHONY, TERRENCE	New-York . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
BALL, JAMES, . . . .	Paris, . . .	<i>Oneida.</i>
BENNETT, GEORGE, . . . .	Catherines, . . .	<i>Chemung.</i>
BIGGS, JOHN, . . . . .	Wales, . . .	<i>Suffolk.</i>
BRICKWAY, ALBERT . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>Erie.</i>
BOLLMAN, CHARLES , . . .	"	"
BABCOCK, STEPHEN, . . . .	Malone, . . .	<i>Franklin.</i>
CARROL, FRANCIS . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
CROGH, EDMUND. . . . .	"	"
CUTTER, GEORGE . . . .	Patterson, . . .	<i>Passaic, N. J.</i>
CORRIGAN, OWEN . . . .	Brooklyn, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
CLINTON, DEWITT JOHN, . . .	Willet, . . .	<i>Corilandt.</i>
CARLL, LEWIS . . . . .	Flushing, . . .	<i>Kings,</i>
DINAN, JOHN, . . . . .	Ellicottville, . . .	<i>Cattaraugus.</i>
DOLTON, MORRIS, . . . .	Honeoye, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
FALLS, JOHN . . . . .	Morris, . . .	<i>Otsego.</i>
FINIGAN, JAMES . . . . .	Ovid, . . .	<i>Seneca.</i>
FINIGAN, EUGENE, . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
GOLDEN, JOHN . . . . .	"	"
GOODSELL, CHARLES, . . . .	Tompkins, . . .	<i>Delaware.</i>
GREEN, GEORGE, W. . . . .	Fishkill, . . .	<i>Dutchess.</i>
GRAYSMAN, PETER, . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
HANNA, ALEXANDER, . . . .	Lisbon, . . .	<i>St, Lawrence,</i>
HICKEY, ROBERT, . . . . .	Eagle, . . .	<i>Wyoming.</i>
HYDE, BARTHOLOMEW, . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
HOFFMAN, WILLIAM . . . .	Rochester, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>

HOGAN, WILLIAM, . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
JAMES, BENJAMIN, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
JOHNSON, WILLIAM F . . . . .	Ithaca, . . . . .	<i>Tonpkins.</i>
KAHOE, WILLIAM . . . . .	Rochester, . . . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
KAVANAGH, JAMES . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
KENNEDY, NICHOLAS . . . . .	Williamsburg, . . . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
KOPLER, JOHN . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
LYNCH, MICHAEL, . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
LEWIS, HIRAM . . . . .	Norwich, . . . . .	<i>Chenango.</i>
ULL, ARIS . . . . .	New Lisbon, . . . . .	<i>Oswego.</i>
LITLER, SAMUEL . . . . .	Florence, . . . . .	<i>Oneida.</i>
MILLER, RICHARD . . . . .	Ancram, . . . . .	<i>Columbia.</i>
MAHONEY, CORNELIUS . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
MORRISON, CHARLES . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MALONE, EDMUND . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MANNING, LEWIS . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
M'ARDLE, OWEN . . . . .	Albany, . . . . .	<i>Albany.</i>
M'GRATH, TIMOTHY . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
M'KENNA, PATRICK . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
M'CLELLAND, ADAM, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
M'MEEHAN, BAREY, . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
M'DERRMOT, MICHAEL . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
NOYES, JOHN . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
OTTO, CHARLES . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
O'DONNELL, JOHN . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
O'BRIEN, JAMES H. . . . .	Lockport, . . . . .	<i>Niagara.</i>
PURCELL, MICHAEL . . . . .	Troy . . . . .	<i>Rennssalaer.</i>
PITCHER, JAMES . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
REMSSEN, GEORGE W . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
ROE, THOMAS . . . . .	Schenectady, . . . . .	<i>Schenectady.</i>
RUSSELL, ALFRED . . . . .	Scriba, . . . . .	<i>Oswego.</i>
ROUSE, NICHOLAS . . . . .	Lawrence, . . . . .	<i>Otsego.</i>
ROSET, JOSEPH, . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
RILEY, MICHAEL, . . . . .	Rahway, . . . . .	<i>Essex.</i>
SHOTWELL, THEODORE . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
SHULTHEIS, HERMAN . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
SMITH, JOHN D. . . . .	Oppenheim, . . . . .	<i>Fulton.</i>
SRAUGER, LEROY . . . . .	Franklin, . . . . .	<i>Delaware.</i>

SCHELL, JACOB . . . . .	Rochester, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
TILLOTSON, JEREMIAH, . . . . .	Franklin, . . .	<i>Bergen, N. J.</i>
VAN HOUTEN, CRINES . . . . .	Hackensack, . . .	"
VAN KUNE, SAMUEL . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
WARRINER, WALLACE . . . . .	Weathersfield, .	<i>Wyoming.</i>
WHITAKER, JOHN, . . . . .	Hempstead, . . .	<i>Queens.</i>
WOOD, CHARLES . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
WADDLE, JAMES . . . . .	Johnsburgh. . .	<i>Warren.</i>

## F E M A L E S .

Names.	Town.	County.
ARNOLD, LOUISA . . .	New-York, . .	New-York.
BEATTIE, CHARLOTTE . . .	Webster, . .	Monroe.
BELL, SUSAN . . .	Lisbon, . .	St. Lawrence.
BRIDE, MARY . . .	New-York, . .	New-York.
BRADLEY, MARY . . .	New-York, . .	New-York,
BRIEN, MARGARET A. . .	" . .	"
BROWN, MARGARET . . .	" . .	"
BOULWARE, MARY . . .	Montgomery, . .	Alabama.
BAKER, SUSAN . . .	Orange, . .	Rockland,
COX, ANN, . . .	New-York, . .	New-York.
CURTIS, DORINDA . . .	" . .	"
CASSIDY, CATHARINE . . .	" . .	"
DRAKE, ANN . . .	Stockholm, . .	St. Lawrence.
DELOSS, CATHARINE . . .	Herkimer, . .	Herkimer.
EDWARDS, HARRIET E. . .	New-York, . .	New-York.
FLANAGAN, MARY . . .	Rochester, . .	Monroe.
FLEMING, PHILENA . . .	Geneva, . .	Ontario.
FOSTER, MARY J. . .	Oneida, . .	Madison.
GASTON, ARAMINTA . . .	New Orleans, . .	Louisiana.
HASTINGS, MARY, C. . .	New-York, . .	New-York.
HATCHMAN, ALICE . . .	West Farms, . .	Westchester.
HEATH, MARY J. . .	Little Falls, . .	Herkimer.
HARNEY, MARY . . .	Hamilton, . .	Canada.
HELMER, ELIZABETH . . .	Vienna, . .	Ontario.
INGALLS, HARRIET . . .	Dansville, . .	Steuben.
JOHNSON, ELLEN . . .	Buffalo, . .	Erie.
KERTZ, GERTRUDE . . .	New-York, . .	New-York.
KNOWLES, MARY . . .	" . .	"
LONG, PATIENCE . . .	Brooklyn, . .	Kings.
LUXTON, CHARLOTTE A. . .	New-York, . .	New-York.
LENT, CATHARINE . . .	Niskayuna, . .	Schenectady
LENT, GERTRUDE . . .	" . .	"
LOUNSBERRY, VIRGINIA . . .	Brooklyn, . .	Kings.

MOGEL, MARGARETTA	,	Williamsburgh,	.	Kings.
MARRIN, MARGARET	.	Wheatland,	.	Monroe.
MALONE, ELLEN	.	New-York,	.	New-York.
MALONE, ELLEN	.	"	.	"
M'AULEY, MARGARET	.	"	.	"
M'GREGOR, SUSAN	.	"	.	"
MILLARD, LYDIA	.	Catskill,	.	Greene.
MILLARD, SARAH	.	"	.	"
MOORE, MARY,	.	"	.	"
MURPHY, CATHERINE	.	New-York,	.	New-York.
M'QUADE, ELIZA	.	"	.	"
O'BEIRNE, BARBARA	.	New-York,	.	New-York.
PHILIPS, MARGARET	.	"	.	"
POWERS, BRIDGET	.	"	.	"
PAY, SARAH,	.	New-York,	.	New-York.
QUIMBY, CAROLINE	.	"	.	"
ROBINSON, ELIZA A.	.	"	.	"
RODNEY, HANNAH	.	"	.	"
RHEVE, MARY A	.	"	.	"
SCKROEDER, SARAH	.	"	.	"
SIGLER, SOPHIA	.	Patterson,	.	Passaic, N. J.
SHAUGHNESSY, ELIZA	.	New-York,	.	New-York.
SHORDEN, ANNA	.	"	.	"
SMITH, MARGARET ANN,	.	"	.	"
SMITH, MARY C.	.	"	.	"
SWEET, SARAH,	.	Moravia,	.	Cayuga.
SQUIRES, JANE	.	New Hartford,	.	Oneida.
WOOD, ANNA	.	New-York,	.	New-York.
WATSON, ELIZA	.	Brooklyn,	.	Kings.
WILLARD, MARTHA J.	.	Marlborough,	.	Ulster.
WYNN, MARY	.	New-York,	.	New-York.
WISWALL, LOUISA	.	"	.	"
WAIT, LYDIA	.	Covington,	.	Wyoming.
WHEELER, HANNAH	.	New-York,	.	New-York.

## LIST OF GRADUATES

*And other Blind persons connected with the Institution.*

## MALES.

ADAM, MICHAEL,  
ANDREWS, HENRY,  
BALCOM, IRA,  
BECK, JOHN,  
BRANNEN, LAWRENCE,  
BECANEN, PHILIP,  
CRUSER, AUGUSTUS,  
CRUSER, EDMUND,  
DELANO, RANSOM,  
GRADY, JOHN,  
HALL, EZRA,  
HAGGARTY, PETER,  
HAZLETT, CHARLES,  
HENRY, WILLIAM, W.  
HUGHES, EDWARD,  
JOHNSTON, JAMES,  
KENAN, PATRICK,  
KANE, RICHARD,  
KELLY, MICH.  
KING, JOEL,  
LASCH, JOHN DAVID,  
LUNNEY, HUGH,  
MAHONEY, CORNELIUS,  
MEAD, FRANCIS,  
M'DERMOTT, JOHN,  
MC LAUGHLIN, EDWARD,  
MC MEEHAN, FRANCIS,  
MILES, JOHN,  
MURPHY, THOMAS,  
O'DONNELL, PATRICK,  
SOPER, THOMAS,  
STANLEY, WILLIAM,  
SULLIVAN, CHARLES,  
TICE, AEBEL,  
TAYLOR, JOHN,  
THOMPSON, JAMES,  
WATERBURY, WARREN,  
WILKINS, DERRICK,

## FEMALES.

ANGEVINE, CAROLINE,  
BULLOCK, CYNTHIA,  
COLLINS, JANE,  
CONNELL, CATHARINE,  
CROSBY, F. J.  
CROCHERON, SARAH ANN,  
CRUSER, ANN,  
CUTTER, ANGELINE,  
DEMAREST, CHARITY,  
DERRICK, AMELIA,  
KENNEDY, CATHARINE,  
LASCH, PHOEBE,  
MERRIL, ANGELINE,  
MC MEEHAN, ELIZABETH,  
MURPHY, ELLEN,  
MOORE, MARTHA,  
MOREY, LOUISA,  
MILLS, CORDELIA,  
PLUNKETT, MARY A.  
RADCLIF, ISABELLA,  
SIMMONS, ELIZABETH,  
SCOTT, ESTHER,  
SPRUNG, JULIA,  
STEWART, CATHARINE,  
WELLS, LUCRETIA.

Males,	38
Females,	25
Total,	63

## Report of Committee on Music.

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION  
FOR THE BLIND ;

*The Committee on Music, beg leave to*

### R E P O R T ,

That the instruction of the pupils in Vocal and Instrumental, music, continues to occupy a very prominent place in the system of education, pursued in this Institution, and that the present acquirements of the pupils are in no respect inferior to those in former years. Mr. Reiff, still continues in charge, as Professor of Instrumental music, and the instruction in vocalization, is confided to the charge of Professor Root: these gentleman have performed their duties to the entire satisfaction of your committee. There are also, two blind assistant instructors in music, Ezra Hall and Charles Hazlett in the male department. And as assistant female instructors, Catharine Connel, Angeline Cutter and Catharine Kennedy are still attached to the Institution.

In the *Instrumental department*, there are 77 pupils, of whom 38 are girls; amongst these pupils, are several of unusual promise. The Band, composed of 12 members, is also in a better condition than it has been for several years past. In the *Vocal department*, there are 80 pupils, divided into two classes as regards acquirements, the more advanced pupils, being especially under the instruction of Professor Root. There are also nine pupils under instruction in the *tuning of Pianos*; this new department, introduced in 1852, affords an additional resource to the graduates, and has been measurably successful.

The expenses in 1854 have been as follows :—

For Teachers' Salaries, . . . . .	\$1,576 76
Repairs of Organ and other Instruments, . .	265 60
	1,842 36

In conclusion, your committee have great pleasure in reporting the prosperous condition of this department, and would especially commend it to the continued favor of the Board, as the most available means for self-support for the objects of our charge.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN G. ADAMS M. D.

ANSON G. PHELPS,

JOHN P. CROSBY.

*Committee on Music.*



## Report of the Committee on Manufactures.

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND:

*The Committee on Manufactures respectfully*

### R E P O R T ,

That during the past year, 52 graduates and adult blind have been constantly employed in the various branches of the department. The pupils have also received employment.

As was intimated in the last yearly report of this Committee, James Young has been appointed business agent of this Department in place of T. D. Camp, resigned. The several trades are under the direction of the same instructors as the previous year, who have discharged their duties to the satisfaction of the Committee.

This Committee, however, are obliged to report that the present commercial crisis, everywhere existing, has affected the department most disastrously. The stock of manufactured articles, at present remaining on hand, amounts to nearly double of that of last year ; and the high price paid for raw material, together with much diminished sales, have brought about, as a necessary result, great pecuniary embarrassment.

The Committee therefore, under existing circumstances, do not hesitate to declare that, unless aid be immediately furnished by the State Legislature, the business of Manufacturing in this department, must be greatly diminished, if not entirely discontinued. In which case the privations and sufferings of the indigent Blind will be most distressing.

ROBERT I. MURRAY,  
SILAS BROWN,  
GEORGE F. JONES.

*Committee on Manufactures.*

---

### Report of the Committee on Repairs and Improvements.

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND;

*The Committee on Repairs and Improvements respectfully*

#### RE P O R T ,

That in necessary alterations and repairs in both Buildings there has been expended during the past year the sum of \$2,452 91.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE F. JONES.

JAMES N. COBB, (*absent in Europe*)

MAHLON DAY. (*dead*)

*Committee on Repairs and Improvements.*

---

### Report of the Committee on Supplies.

*The Committee on Supplies respectfully*

#### RE P O R T ,

That they have continued their usual close supervision of this Department, visiting the Institution once, and oftener, during the week. .

While the prices of fuel and provisions have been much higher than heretofore, the aggregate expense is somewhat less than the previous year.

The management of the Institution by Mr. T. COLDEN COOPER, has been satisfactory, and, with the strict attention paid to the regimen and personal habits of the pupils, and to the systematic ventilation of the buildings, has produced, under a kind Providence, a remarkable state of good health among our inmates.

The expenses of this department have been as follows:

### EXPENSES

#### OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUPPLIES FOR 1854.

For groceries and provisions, . . . . .	\$9869 59
" dry goods and clothing, . . . . .	1912 86
" wages of Matron and servants, . . . . .	2200 11
" housekeeping articles, . . . . .	1200 97
" hospital expenses, . . . . .	272 50
" fuel, . . . . .	1134 25
" stable expenses, . . . . .	190 63
" postage and stationery, . . . . .	112 05
" stage and travelling expenses, . . . . .	196 28
" gas, . . . . .	231 80
	<hr/>
	\$17,321 04
	<hr/>

Annexed is a statement of the sewing and knitting of the female pupils.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT L. CASE,  
EDWARD WOOD,  
*Committee.*

#### LIST OF ARTICLES MADE IN THE SEWING ROOM BY THE FEMALE PUPILS DURING THE YEAR 1854.

121 sheets,	24 cravats,
204 towels,	20 aprons,
51 pillow-cases,	41 shirts,
20 comfortables,	8 collars,
6 bed-sacks,	13 table-cloths,
62 " spreads,	58 chemises,
102 handkerchiefs,	48 drawers,
46 skirts,	32 night-gowns.
19 flannel-wrappers.	

## Physician's Report.

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION  
FOR THE BLIND.

GENTLEMEN :

It is with no ordinary pleasure that I present the following

### R E P O R T :

The health of the pupils has been remarkably good during the year; and, with the exception of some cases of great severity during the fall, they have been unusually exempt from sickness, even of the more trivial kinds.

This favorable result is mainly to be attributed to the care bestowed in attention to air and exercise, aided, however, by judicious alternations in diet. So marked is the improvement, more especially among the younger pupils, that many who entered the Institution, a few years ago, thin, pale, with anxious look and uncertain gait, are now classed among the most robust, and so far as muscular development and general appearance can aid in forming an opinion, they bid fair to live the average duration of life.

Notwithstanding such abundant cause for thankfulness, it is, however, my duty to record three deaths—all from affections of the bowels. To this class of diseases the blind are particularly subject.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. G. CLEMENTS.

*New-York, January, 1855.*

## Report of the Committee on Finance.

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND:

*The Committee on Finance respectfully*

### REPORT,

That the amount received into your treasury during the year ending 31st ult., from various sources is \$68,318 64.

The Treasurer, has disbursed during the year \$74,443 71, leaving a balance due him of \$6,125 07.

For details of the items of receipts and disbursements for the past year, your Committee refer to the Treasurer's account and memoranda here annexed, and arranged in usual order.

Respectfully submitted :

ROBERT GRACIE,  
ROBERT L. CASE,  
JOHN D. OGDEN.

*Finance Committee.*

## LEGACIES AND DONATIONS FOR 1854.

Legacy of S. S. Howland, per Chas. H. Russell, Executor,	\$1000	00
"    " William Howe, of Monroe County,	2985	14
"    " Margaret Fritz, per Philip Embury,	100	00
Donation from "Martyn,"	25	00
"    " Chas. Morgan, per Dr. Wood,	50	00
"    " J. Hewlett,	5	00
"    " W. Birdsall,	5	00
Contribution Box at the Institution,	45	33
Edward Wood, annual subscription,	10	00
J. G. Adams, " "	10	00
Dr. E. L. Beadle, "	5	00
Robert Gracie, "	10	00
	4250	47

January 1, 1855.

SILAS BROWN, TREASURER.

## SUNDRY DONATIONS.

Hecker & Bro.,	1 barrel flour and 1 box farina.	
Courier & Enquirer, half subscription,		\$5 00
Commercial Advertiser, do.		5 00
Evening Post, do.		5 00
New-York Daily Tribune, gratis,		6 00
" Evangelist, do.		2 50
" Recorder, do.		2 50
" Churchman, do.		2 50
" Christian Advocate, gratis,		2 50
Albany Semi-weekly Argus, do.		4 00

## Dr. NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, IN ACCOUNT WITH SILAS BROWN, TREASURER.

Cr.	1854.	1854.	Dec. 31.	By cash, state pupils, for sales manufactures, borrowed on bond and mortgages, legacies and donations, for rent, for board and tuition, from counties for clothing, for New-Jersey pupils, from Commissioners of Emigration, from annual exhibition, By interest on Frizzle Fund, By cash sales of sundries, By interest on building fund, By balance to new account due Treasurer, .....
	Jan. 1.	\$9,677	59	
	Dec. 31.			\$12,973 37
To Cash paid vouchers from Committees as follows :				21,032 83
COMMITTEE ON SUPPLIES.				20,000 00
For groceries and provisions, .....	\$9,869 59			4,250 47
“ dry goods and clothing, .....	1,912 86			4,561 68
“ wages of Matron and servants, .....	2,200 11			1,866 00
“ housekeeping articles, .....	1,200 97			1,700 00
“ hospital expenses, .....	272 50			900 00
“ fuel, .....	1,134 33			634 32
“ stable expenses, .....	190 63			167 69
“ postage and stationery, .....	112 05			120 79
“ stage and travelling expenses, .....	196 28			75 58
“ gas expenses, .....	231 80			32 91
		17,321	04	6,125 07
COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES.				
For materials, .....	13,681 71			
“ wages to blind and some seeing, .....	11,555 77			
“ salaries and sundry expenses, .....	4,786 47			
		30,023	95	
COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.				
For instructors' salaries, .....	1,576 76			
“ music and repairs, .....	265 60			
		1,842	36	
COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION.				
For teachers' salaries, .....	1,083 23			
“ books, stationery, &c., .....	223 40			
		1,306	63	
COMMITTEE ON REPAIRS & IMPROVEMENTS.				
For general repairs, .....	651 14			
“ carpenters' work, .....	1,801 77			
		2,452	91	
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.				
For Superintendent's salary, 1 year, .....	1,000 00			
“ travelling expenses, .....	80 00			
“ insurance, .....	785 31			
“ law expenses, .....	50 00			
“ Interest on loan from Bowery Savings Bank, .....	1,600 00			
		3,515	31	
Balance Building Fund, .....				
		7,665	84	
To balance of Interest, .....				
		638	08	
		\$74,443	71	
To balance due Treasurer to new account, .....				
		6,125	07	

SILAS BROWN, TREASURER.

Examined and found correct,  
 ROBERT GRACIE,  
 JOHN D. OGDEN,  
 ROBERT L. CASE,  
 COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

1855.

Jan. 1.

To balance due Treasurer to new account, .....

6,125 07

\$74,443 71

## BUILDING FUND FOR THE BLIND, IN ACCOUNT WITH SILAS BROWN, TREASURER.

Dr.	Cr.
D 1854.	1854.
Dec. 31. To Cash paid for Mason work,.....	44
"    "    "    Carpenters,.....	92
"    "    "    Plate Glass, Sash, &c,.....	09
"    "    "    Plumbing work,.....	2,449
"    "    "    Timers,.....	2,398
"    "    "    Furnace Ranges, &c,.....	84
"    "    "    Interest to Bovery Savings Bank,.....	1,872
"    "    "    Iron work,.....	1,565
"    "    "    Painting,.....	1,475
"    "    "    Gas Fixtures,.....	00
"    "    "    Architect,.....	1,251
"    "    "    Insurance,.....	96
"    "    "    Drawing Leases,.....	1,210
	1,626
	04
	440
	00
	195
	00
	90
	00
	26
	\$58,325
	26

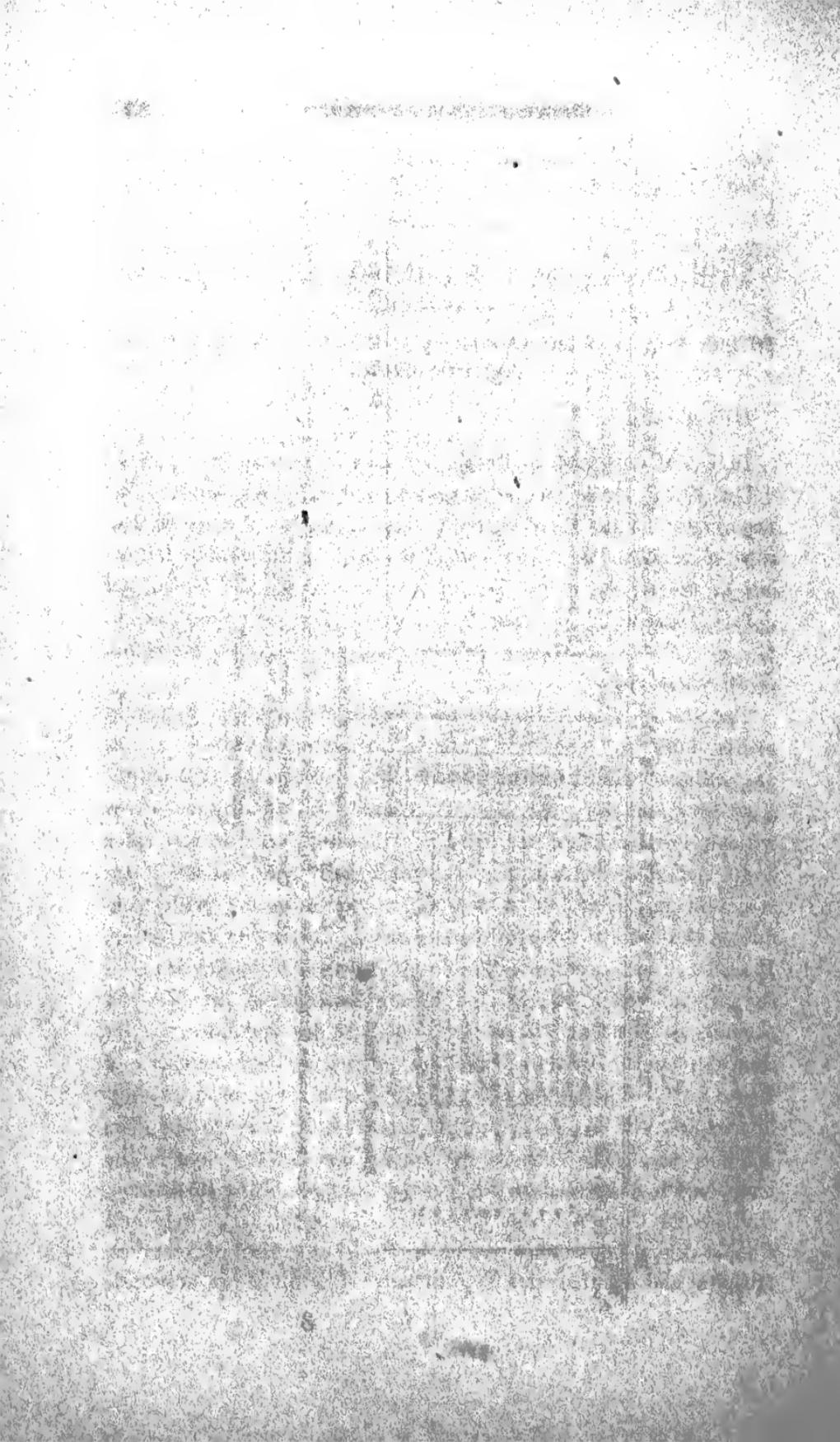
Examined and found correct.

ROBERT GRACIE,  
 JOHN D. OGDEN, } COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.  
 ROBERT L. CASE.

SILAS BROWN TREASURER.

The above account relates to the cost of the New Building on 8th Avenue and includes the expense of altering the Centre Building to correspond.

M.E.M.	Cost of the Building as above.....	58,325.96
"	Centre " erected in 1849.....	16,335.79
	Total cost on Eighth Avenue.	74,561.05



## Visit to European Institutions for the Blind, In 1853-4.

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION  
FOR THE BLIND.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with a Resolution, passed December 27, 1854: "That Dr. J. G. ADAMS be requested to prepare an account of the Institutions for the Blind visited by him during his absence in Europe, to be embodied in the Annual Report," I submit the following, as the results of my observations, as regards the *Institut des Jeunes Aveugles, Paris*; the *School of the Indigent Blind, in St. George's Fields, Southwark, London*; and, the *School for the Blind, in Hardman Street, Liverpool*.

The *Institut Imperial des Jeunes Aveugles* at Paris, was frequently visited during my sojourn in Paris, in the winter of 1853-4: and at one of these visits, I had the pleasure of being accompanied by our Recording Secretary, Mr. GEO. F. ALLEN. Introducing ourselves without credentials, to Mr. DU FAU, (the Resident Director since 1840, and connected with the Institution, as Superintendent of Instruction since 1815,) we were with great attention and civility conducted through the different departments of this noble Institution. Founded in 1785, by the philanthropic efforts of Valentine Hauy—the present edifice was erected by the Government in 1843, and occupies a beautiful site on the Boulevard des Invalides, not far from the famous Hotel des Invalides, erected by the munificence of Louis XIV. The buildings, to the number of seven, occupy a hollow square, with extensive grounds attached, for exercise and garden purposes. The entrance is through the Porter's lodge,—the main building, devoted to the general purposes of the Institution, contains the Council Room, Director's Apartment, large and small Chapel, Physician's Office, rooms for Professors, Hall of Archives, Hospital and Apothecaries' department. The wings are appropri-

ated for the residence of the pupils, School Rooms, Work Shops, Library, Sales Room, Dormitories, Refectories, &c. : the two sexes occupying different wings, are thus kept entirely separated. The Institution is under the control of the Minister of the Interior, assisted by a Resident Director, two Instituteurs, (Superintendents of Instruction,) one for each department ; a financial officer, an Almoner, whose duty is to attend to the service of the Chapel, and a resident Physician. Two Sisters of Charity are attached to the Hospital department. There are besides, three care-takers, to watch over, and maintain the discipline of the establishment ; and a night watch to patrol the establishment. The present establishment was erected at an expense of two million of francs. Receipts for 1850, 176,321 francs. Expenses for do. 172,910 francs—the Government pays two-thirds of the expenses. The salary of the Director is 5,000 francs.

*Terms of Admission.*—The pupils are divided into two classes, either as boarders (*pensionnaires*,) or as bursars,\* that is, supported by individuals or the State. The charge for a *pensionnaire* is 1000 francs : for bursars, from 200 to 800 francs for the eight years of instruction. To be admitted on a scholarship, the pupil must be over nine years of age, and not older than thirteen years : must present the certificate of a Physician, testifying—1st. That the blindness is total, and apparently incurable. 2nd. That the intellectual faculties are unimpaired. 3rd. That he is not epileptic, nor affected with scrofula, contagious disease, or any infirmity which may incapacitate him from the pursuits to which his attention may be directed in the Institution. 4th. That he shall have had the small-pox, or have been properly vaccinated.—*Pensionnaires* may be admitted by the Director, on paying in advance three months' tuition. Foreigners are received under this class. Each pupil on entering, must be provided with a wardrobe of the value of 300 francs, which is taken charge of by the Institution.—The pupils are required to rise at 6 A. M., and retire at 9 P. M. There is a prayer, and religious instruction before bed-time.—Hours for meals, are, *Breakfast*,

---

\* Corresponding with our “*scholars on a foundation.*”

at 8, A. M. ; *Dinner* at noon ; a *Collation* at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  P. M. ; *Supper*, at 7 P. M. Each meal is followed by some recreation for half an hour : the intervals of time are occupied in study, class instruction, and different kinds of work. At their meals, in their recreations, and sleeping arrangements, the pupils are distributed into two divisions, the fifteenth year constituting the line of division. Great and constant attention is given to the preparation of food, which is simple, but always of the first quality. Great attention is also paid to the hygienic condition of the pupils. Baths are administered once a month ; exercise in the open air, is freely enjoined. Every Thursday they promenade in the public thoroughfares, and oftener in the vacations. Professors and pupils wear a blue uniform, the former being distinguished by an embroidered collar.

*Average number of pupils* 171. The most frequent causes of blindness, are, *Purulent Ophthalmia*, *Amaurosis*, and *Cataract*.

*Instruction* is given by twelve Professors, who are graduates of the Institution. After a pupil is admitted, the first care is to develop his physical powers in his work and his recreations. He is allowed all the liberty of his movements. He is taught to eat, to walk, dress himself, make his bed ; in short, to do every thing for himself. After a while his instruction commences, which is divided into three sections, *intellectual*, *musical* and *industrial*,—and the eight years are generally divided into two nearly equal periods. In the first, they are on trial as regards their tastes and capacities : receive elementary instruction upon theory and practice of music, and work in the shops. At the end of that period, they enter upon the course found to be best adapted for them. If they have no taste for science or literature, no taste for music, they are occupied in learning a trade; if on the contrary, they evince any peculiar talent, it is cultivated to the highest degree. During the first four years, instruction is given in reading books in raised characters, sacred history, grammar, geography and arithmetic, with general notions of ancient and natural history, French history and writing in raised points. The system of *raised points* invented by M. Braille, a pupil and professor in the Institution, possesses great convenience after it has been acquired, as the same characters serve

for reading, numerical notation, and for music. It has however this great disadvantage, compared with the Roman raised letters, that it is necessary for the seeing to learn it also, before they can communicate with the blind. Its use is for the most part confined solely to the French Institution. Writing is taught by a grooved plate of zinc of the size of an ordinary slate, with an open sliding rule, through which the letters are formed from right to left by means of a blunt punch acting upon thick paper. There is also in use a self-acting keyed instrument worked by the fingers, by means of which the ordinary writing characters are made; this is used principally for epistolary correspondence.

The course of superior instruction during the last four years of the term, embraces Geometry, Physics, Belles-Lettres, General History, Political Geography, and Political Economy. The more advanced and promising pupils, attend the lectures by the eminent Professors at the Sorbonne, or the College of France. Every week, there is an examination by the Professors, the results of which are recorded: and every three months, there is a general examination on all the studies, at the close of which, letters are sent to the friends, with information as to the conduct, progress, and state of the health of the pupils.

*Instruction in Music* is early commenced: classes in Solfeggio embrace the youngest pupils, and to each one is assigned an instrument; first, the piano, and afterwards some department of the Orchestra. The Orchestra is complete in all its parts, and I recall with much pleasure the gratification I experienced from hearing its performance of overtures, symphonies, and solo passages, in a style and with a precision, which showed it to be composed of accomplished artists. Independent of Solfeggio and instrumentation, the course comprehends vocalization, chant, harmony, thorough bass, use of organ, and tuning of pianos. The leader, M. Roussel, is an accomplished musician,—a Professor taken from the ranks of the pupils. I also had an opportunity of hearing the most impressive service of the church, chanted by the pupils on the occasion of a wedding of one of the Professors, (of a distinguished French family), to a seeing lady. At the elevation of the Host, the “O Salutaris

*Hostia*" was chanted by a female voice with thrilling and overpowering effect: its memory can never be effaced. As an illustration of the influence of these instructions in Music upon the future career of the pupil, I may mention, that five of the churches in Paris have blind organists, and also more than twenty in the different cities of France. The *tuning of pianos* also affords employment and competent support to a large number.

*The Industrial Education* comprises, for males, basket and brush making, chair-seating, thread and rope-making, with the mechanic arts, more especially *turning*: this latter trade is a favorite with the boys; ten lathes were in operation at the time of my visit, and great dexterity manifested in their use. Specimens of their work I have already had the pleasure of submitting to the inspection of the Board. The females are employed in spinning, the manufacture of different kinds of net and straw work, and in the preparation of garments. M. Du Fau remarked to me, upon the difficulty he had encountered in finding suitable occupations for the female pupils. A printing department and binding is also attached to the Institution. All this system of instruction is carried on by one seeing Superintendent and twelve blind Professors, viz., six of the first rank, three of the second, two aspirants, and one pupil. For salary—six receive 400 francs, three 200 francs; the others do not receive any compensation.

"Experience has proved," says M. Du Fau, "that no master is better for the blind child than one who, born in the same state of infirmity, has known how, by persevering efforts, to triumph over obstacles which nature has imposed upon him. No one can better guide the child in a road which he has himself travelled, and whose aspirations are so well known to him."

I cannot close this imperfect sketch of the Paris Institution for the Blind without expressing my high admiration, as respects its domestic arrangements, order, cleanliness, no less than for the efficiency of its intellectual and industrial instruction. My most cordial thanks are due to Messrs. Du Fau, Gaudet, and Roussel, for their kind attentions during my frequent visits. The Institution is open for inspection every Wednesday, from 1 to 5 P. M., on presenting a passport or ticket from the Director.

Besides this Institution, there is an Alms-House, or Home for the Adult Blind (*Hospice des Quinze Vingts*), supported by the Government, which I regret that I did not visit. Here the Blind are received with their families to the number of 300. The indigent Blind from every part of France are here admitted: the single brethren and sisters are encouraged to marry. The unmarried receive 20 sous per day; the married 26 sous per day, together with 1½lb. bread. Besides these, there are 600 out-door pensioners, who are divided into three classes,—the first receiving 100 francs; second, 150 francs; and third, 200 francs per annum. This establishment is an honor to that great nation whose charities excel all others. It was founded in 1260 by St. Louis.

*The School of the Indigent Blind, St. George's Fields, Southwark, London.*—In regard to this Institution, owing to my hurried visit on the morning of the day of my departure from London, I have only a few words to say. Founded in 1799, the present number of pupils is one hundred and fifty-four, sixteen of whom are retained in the Institution for life, as teachers. But little attention is paid to the intellectual development of the pupil, as the main object is to learn them a trade, and thus keep them from the parish work-house. Shoe-making, brush-making, and the fabrication of sash and blind cord is extensively carried on. The girls are engaged in knitting and the manufacture of ornamental hair-work into chains, bracelets and rings, of which I saw some beautiful specimens. No pupils are received under 12, or over 20 years of age, and no pupil of over 25 years, can remain in the establishment. Time of residence in the Institution, six years. On leaving the Institution, if meritorious, the pupils are presented with a portion of their earnings and a set of tools for their trade. It is supported by voluntary subscriptions. *Receipts* for 1852, £9,245, of which, for articles sold, £872. *Expenses*, £7,353. My acknowledgments are due to Mr. C. Rawson, Superintendent, for his kind attention during my visit.

Besides this Institution, there is also in London an *Asylum for the Blind in Westminster Row*, where one hundred and eighty pupils are instructed in trades; and a *Day School in Regent's Park*

for teaching the Blind to read. I regret that my limited time prevented a visit to these establishments.

*The School for the Indigent Blind at Liverpool*, in Hardman Street is an Institution, delightfully situated upon high ground overlooking the city. The present buildings are comparatively new: the Chapel, with a Grecian portico, is detached from the main buildings, giving great effect to the façade. *Number of pupils* 90; 55 males, and 35 females. Term of residence, six years. It is supported by subscriptions, donations, and sale of articles manufactured. *Receipts* during 1853, £3936. *Expenses*, £3864. *Receipts from Manufactures*,\* £862 5s. 3d. *Legacies*, £1,224. *Donations*, £156. *Subscriptions*, £811. The pupils are for the most part from the lower classes in society, and are sent by their respective parishes to be educated, in order to enable them to maintain themselves wholly, or in part. Great attention is bestowed upon their musical education, which is said to afford the most desirable means of support, some being able, as organists or teachers of music, to realize an annual income of from £20 to £150. During the last five years, fifteen organists have been appointed to churches, and applications are constantly made for this purpose in greater numbers than can be supplied. A selection of Sacred Music is performed by the pupils every Tuesday and Friday, at half past two, P. M. The School is open to the public every day, (Sundays excepted,) from nine, A. M., to six, P. M. Visitors are requested to purchase some article, or to make a small donation. A peculiar feature in this Institution, is, that a Parish Chapel is connected with, and supported by it. This Chapel is a large and elegant edifice, the expenses of which are defrayed by the pew-rents: the great attraction being, the *full choral service* as performed by the Blind. The salary of the Chaplain is, £500, (\$2,500.) Organist and Choir, £150. *Total expenses of Chapel*, £837. *Receipts for Pew Rents* £543. *Collected at the Door*, £295, (\$1,475.) The musical performances at the Chapel are celebrated throughout Europe, and will hardly suffer in comparison with the same

---

\* Ropery, Mats, Rugs, Baskets, Knitting, Sash Cord.

service in St. Paul's, or Westminster Abbey. I confess myself both surprised and delighted with the high degree of perfection attained. Mr. ADDENBROOK, the Superintendent of the Institution, is an accomplished musician, and consequently takes great interest in the success of this department of instruction. He will please to receive my thanks for his kind attentions during my visits to the establishment. Mr. WM. BROWN, M. P., is the distinguished President, to whose princely liberality and fostering care, it owes much of its present efficiency.

In concluding these desultory observations, I have a few suggestions to offer. While I am delighted to have had the opportunity of comparing our own Institution with those of the Old World, and am proud to say, that for the beauty of the edifice, its convenience for the purpose intended, its cleanliness, and its admirable system of ventilation, (more particularly in the dormitories,) it is far superior to either of the above mentioned, yet, I consider that we have something to learn from them as regards the system of education, and in the management of the manufacturing department. In my opinion, we should educate the Blind so far as possible, by Blind teachers. Where we find pupils evincing superior attainments and capacities, the latter should be cultivated to their highest extent, with a view to their being permanently attached to our Institution. Let us have, if it be possible, (and I believe it to be so,) Blind Professors both in the Intellectual and Musical Departments. Let more attention be paid to the *study of music*. A distinguished writer, in the January number of the Edinburgh Review, 1854, remarks: "The study of music affords to the Blind, the purest and most unmixed pleasure; for in this pursuit are they least reminded of their infirmity. They find in it scope for the highest imagination, as well as the deepest feelings of religion; and when a blind man becomes a musician, he is one with his whole heart, giving up to this study his entire energies and thoughts."

More especially, let the choral service in our Chapel be improved. This is the principal object of interest to visitors; and according as it is executed, so do they carry away with them impressions favorable, or otherwise. The reputation of our Institu-

tion requires that more attention should be paid to this subject ; and if it require more aid, a small outlay of funds will be well expended. As regards the manufacturing department, I have only to say, that in the London and Liverpool Institutions, it is a source of large profits ; I would here merely call attention to the fact, as stated in the Reports of these Institutions, hereunto annexed. I would also recommend the erection of a Porter's lodge, as in European Institutions ; this will aid much in the preservation of good order, by the exclusion of improper persons, and by exercising a wholesome supervision over our inmates, both pupils and domestics.

In great haste, respectfully submitted.

JOHN G. ADAMS, M. D.

NEW-YORK, *February 12th, 1855.*

---

The proportion of the Blind in the United States, is somewhat larger than in Europe, where it is, as 1 to 12 or 1400. In Egypt, from ophthalmia, the proportion is 1 in 100. I take pride in recording, that Dr. Howe's books for the Blind, are admitted in Great Britain to be the cheapest and best.



PAMPHLETS ACCOMPANYING THE LETTER.

Notice Historique, Statistique et Descriptive, sur l'Institution Imperiale des Jeunes Aveugles. Paris, par P. A. DU FAU, Directeur de l'Institution. 1852.

L'Institut des Jeunes Aveugles de Paris. Son histoire et ses procedés d'enseignement. Par J. GAUDET, Instituteur. 1850.

Mémoire sur l'Etat de l'Education, et de l'Enseignement dans l'Institution des Jeunes Aveugles, adressé à Monsieur DU FAU, Directeur. Par M. J. GAUDET. Paris, 1853.

Rapport de l'Asile des Aveugles de Lausanne. 1853.

Report of the School for the Indigent Blind in St. George's Fields, Southwark, London. 1853.

Report of the School for the Blind, Liverpool. 1854.

Letter on the Blind, and Blind Institutions in Europe, by ROBLEY DUNGLISON, M. D., Chairman of Committee on Instruction.

Also, Specimens of the Alphabet in raised points, (System of Braille.)

Specimens of Musical Notation in raised points.

Grooved zinc plate, with sliding open rule, and punch for writing in points.

## TERMS OF ADMISSION.



Pupils are received at the charge of the State of New-York, when their parents are unable to meet the cost of board and tuition. A certificate to this effect should be obtained from the Overseers of the Poor of the town where the pupil resides, in the following form :

<i>New-York,</i>	<i>County,</i>	}
	<i>185</i>	

We, the undersigned, Overseers of the Poor in the Town of \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New-York, do hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_, of said town is blind, He was \_\_\_\_\_ years old on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ last; his moral character is good: he is free from all diseases other than those of the eyes; his blindness is permanent, and his faculties, other than those of sight, are good.

The name of his father (nearest relative or guardian) is \_\_\_\_\_, and the said \_\_\_\_\_ is not of sufficient pecuniary ability to pay either for the board, tuition, or clothing of the said \_\_\_\_\_, as a pupil of the New-York Institution for the Blind.

<i>Overseers of</i>	}
<i>the Poor.</i>	

A small charge (\$20) is collected from the County for Clothing, unless it can be provided by the friends of the applicant, in which case it should be so stated in the certificate.

The certificate is to be forwarded to Albany, to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, from whom the appointment will proceed.

Applications for admission as State pupils, from New-York or New-Jersey, must be between the ages of twelve and twenty-five years.

Pay pupils may be received, younger or older, by consent of the Board of Managers.

The charge for pay pupils, exclusive of clothing, is \$180 a year to be paid quarterly in advance.

Each pay pupil must, on entering the Institution, be supplied by his friends with a suitable bed, pillow, two pairs of sheets, three blankets, a counterpane, and four towels.

Beneficiaries from the State of New-Jersey are admitted on the order of the Governor, based upon a certificate of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the county where the pupil resides.

The Managers of the Institution would respectfully but earnestly call the attention of the officers to whom application is made for certificates of admission to that part of the certificate relating to the *moral character and mental capacity* of the candidate. The reasons why none whose moral characters are not good should be placed in an institution like this, are too obvious to require comment; and as the Institution is a place of education, and not an asylum, none should be placed in it who are incapacitated, either physically or mentally, from receiving instruction.

#### TERMS OF ADMISSION TO THE MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT.

Any blind person of good moral character, may be admitted to work in the Manufacturing Department. Board can be obtained in the vicinity of the Institute. As soon as their proficiency will warrant it they are paid the value of their work.

---

#### FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

I bequeath to my executors the sum of dollars, in trust, to pay over the same in after my decease, to the person who, when the same shall be payable, shall act as Treasurer of the New-York Institution for the Blind, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of the said Institution, and under its direction.

PROPERTY  
OF THE  
NEW YORK  
SOCIETY LIBRARY

# TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

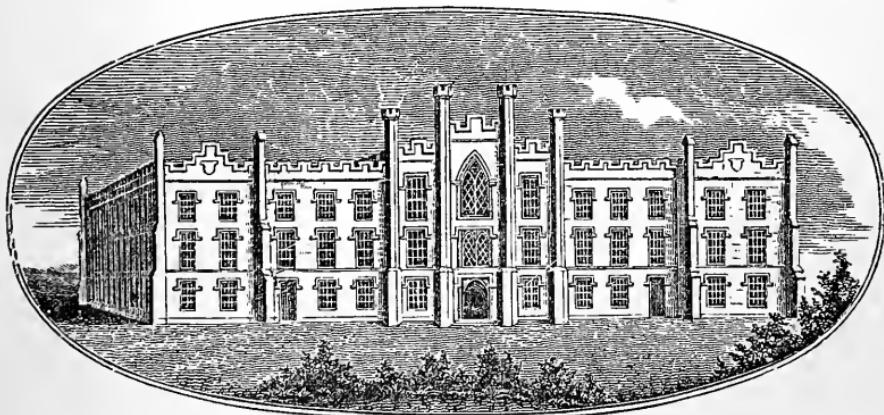
M A N A G E R S

OF THE

# New-York Institution for the Blind,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE:



N E W - Y O R K :

JAMES EGBERT, PRINTER, 321 PEARL-STREET,

1856.

## S T A N D I N G   C O M M I T T E E S

FOR 1856.

-----+-----

### Committee on Finance.

ROBERT L. CASE,		ROBERT GRACIE, G. TALBOT OLYPHANT.
-----------------	--	---------------------------------------

### Committee on Instruction.

GEORGE F. ALLEN,		EDWARD L. BEADLE, M. D. GOUVERNEUR M. OGDEN.
------------------	--	---

### Committee on Music.

JOHN P. CROSBY,		ALFRED C. CRAVEN, WM. CURTIS NOYES.
-----------------	--	--

### Committee on Manufactures.

ROBERT L MURRAY, GEORGE F. JONES,		WM. M. ABBATT, G. TALBOT OLYPHANT. JAMES WARREN.
--------------------------------------	--	--

### Committee on Supplies.

ROBERT L. CASE,		WILLIAM M. ABBATT, WILLIAM DUMONT.
-----------------	--	---------------------------------------

### Committee on Repairs & Improvements.

GEORGE F. JONES,		G. TALBOT OLYPHANT, JAMES N. COBB.
------------------	--	---------------------------------------

### Committee on Chapel.

SILAS BROWN, EDWARD L. BEADLE, GOUVERNEUR M. OGDEN,		ROBERT GRACIE, JOHN G. ADAMS, M.D. WILLIAM CURTIS NOYES, EDWARD WOOD.
---	--	--

## R E P O R T.

---

TO THE HONORABLE THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE  
OF NEW-YORK:

The Managers of the New-York Institution for the  
Blind present this, their Twentieth Annual Report:

It is now more than a quarter of a century since  
this Institution was founded. Beginning with three  
blind children who had lost their sight by ophthalmia  
in the Almshouse, it now numbers one hundred and  
sixty-three pupils, and is daily increasing in usefulness.

Adequate experience has now demonstrated the fact  
that the Institution is something more than an Asylum  
for an afflicted class—something more than the means  
of gratifying the feelings of the humane, and of ad-  
ministering comfort to those whom Providence has  
visited with a great privation. It is more than this; it  
is an instrumentality of practical utility; its support is  
an economy to the State; its pupils are taken out of  
the class of recipients of public and private charity,  
and are converted into self-supporting and useful mem-  
bers of society, and the claims of the Institution to  
public support can be based upon considerations ar-  
ising out of the public interest alone, apart from the  
strong appeal which blindness makes to the charities  
of our nature.

It is a peculiar satisfaction to those who have long labored in the cause of the blind, to find this result constantly showing itself more and more clearly, and it gives the strongest assurance of the permanence and prosperity of the Institution to find it producing fruits of real practical utility.

In our educational department the course of studies is substantially the same as has been reported to your honorable bodies during past years. The great object aimed at is to give each pupil in connection with a good common school education some trade, or business which will enable him to support himself when he leaves our walls; and the history of our graduates shows that these efforts have been remarkably successful.

It will be observed in the annexed report of the Superintendent, that the principle of having our teachers selected from the blind themselves has been considerably extended during the past year. The instructors in our school are now, with one exception, blind graduates of our own Institution, and it is gratifying to be able to state that the schools are most satisfactorily conducted under their care. It is the wish of the Board to extend the use of blind teachers as far as possible throughout all departments of the Institution, and thus enlarge the career open to the blind, and at the same time give to the Institution a class of officers much more likely to remain permanently connected with it, than those who have previously filled these positions.

Of the Manufacturing Department, the Managers

regret that it is not in their power to present so favorable a picture. Their efforts to provide permanent employment for the adult blind have not been crowned with success, and experience has shown that all such efforts must fail unless sustained by more extensive pecuniary resources. When their last annual report was submitted to your honorable bodies, the Managers believed that the then existing embarrassments of their manufacturing department was owing solely to the recent commercial distress which pervaded all classes of the community. In this they were in a certain sense right, but were not right in supposing that a commercial crisis was necessary to produce such a result. Further experience and reflection have shown that such a result is unavoidable, without the devotion of very considerable means to sustain the enterprise. An establishment in which blind people are employed in making various articles, which the Institution undertakes to sell for them is neither more nor less than a manufactory. It has to compete with other manufacturers of the same articles ; its management is necessarily inferior to that of those which are managed by their own proprietors, and its work-people, can sustain but a most unequal competition with seeing workmen. More than this, no manufacturing establishment can sustain itself without some capital—and an Institution having no capital is in no position to meet the embarrassing effects of a constantly accumulating stock of goods which cannot be sold fast enough to keep an overwhelming load of debt from accumulating.

Another circumstance increased the difficulties of our position. The fact that the Institution afforded an opportunity for the blind to support themselves by their own work, attracted to this city many of those who were very naturally and very properly desirous of availing themselves of the means thus afforded of securing an independent livelihood. So that the number of those dependent upon the Institution was increasing in an increasing ratio. The laws of trade brought the whole matter to a stand, and necessarily compelled the Institution to discontinue to a great extent its operations in this direction: and it is entirely obvious that they cannot be renewed without the appropriation of a very large fund to enable them to carry them on.

This result is a source of great regret to the Managers, and has been a real affliction to many worthy blind persons, whom it is painful to us not to be able to provide for in the comfortable and respectable way we had expected to. We had hoped that the interest felt for the industrious blind by the community at large, would have been sufficient to secure a sale for the products of their industry, but experience has shown that this feeling can be relied on only to a very limited extent, and that to effect sales of the great bulk of our products, we could only rely upon the common laws of trade. To meet the requirements of these laws a considerable capital is necessary, and the absence of that indispensable requisite puts it out of the power of the Institution to continue its operations in this direction.

The subject is one of great difficulty, the board have it still under consideration, and trust that some plan may yet be devised to meet this important and pressing want.

To relieve the Institution from the embarrassment caused mainly by the debt incurred in its manufacturing department, your honorable bodies at their last session appropriated the sum of Seven Thousand dollars on condition that the Institution should raise a corresponding sum, and the Managers are happy to report that an appeal to the citizens of New-York, in this behalf was met in the same spirit which has already actuated them towards this Institution. The required amount was raised and the Institution relieved from a large portion of debt which was a source of great anxiety to its friends.

During the year that has passed, the Institution has been blessed with remarkably good health. Death has not visited us, our sick rooms have been used less than usual, and the general appearance of the inmates indicate great improvement in their physical condition.

Since our last report was submitted the Blind have lost two highly valued friends.

For several years **DR. JAMES C. BLISS**, one of the Consulting Physicians of the Institution, rendered his professional services to the Institution gratuitously, always finding time in the midst of a very extensive practice to meet any call from our inmates. When the cholera was raging in the city, and finding victims within our own walls, Dr. Bliss never missed a day in visiting the Blind. Without the expectation of the

slightest remuneration, prompted by that sense of duty which was the guiding principle of his life, and armed by christian charity, he walked fearless amid the pestilence, rendering his professional aid to the sick and administering religious consolations to the dying. It is a comfort to those who regret his loss, to know, that before he left this world, he had made his preparation for the next.

During the past year also MR. NICHOLAS DEAN, for many years a Manager of this Institution, and always its active friend, crowned a life of public usefulness and private worth, by a death worthy of such a life. In him the Blind have lost a constant benefactor, one ever alive to their wants, sympathising with their sorrows and prompt and efficient in everything calculated to promote their welfare. Among the many mourners who met to pay their last sad respects to the remains of Nicholas Dean, none were more sincere than those blind friends of his who had learned to respect and to love him when he was a Member of this Board.

For detailed information in regard to the Institution, the Managers respectfully refer to the annexed reports.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ISAAC WOOD, PRESIDENT.

GEORGE F. ALLEN, SECRETARY.

## Superintendent's Report.

---

*To the Board of Managers.*

GENTLEMEN :

The undersigned begs leave to present his Report for the year 1855.

At the close of the preceding year the number of pupils in the Institution was one hundred and forty-two. Since then sixteen have left by graduation or otherwise, and thirty-seven new pupils have been received, making the present number one hundred and sixty-three.

Eleven blind persons are employed as Instructors.

The expenses of instruction and support have been material. The high price of all the necessaries of life, and the necessity for repairs and alterations to accommodate the increase of our inmates have added to the expenditure, already large. But the benefits to the blind have been so manifest that the outlay must be considered both humane and in every respect profitable.

To the pupils the past has been a prosperous year. There has been little sickness and no death for the last eighteen months.

In the Department of Instruction, the zeal and proficiency of the pupils is encouraging. The thoughtful habits of the blind and their fondness for abstract speculation seeming to fit them for a higher range of studies than those heretofore pursued, new branches have been introduced with success. With the exception of a single assistant, whose services are engaged for a portion of the day, all of the teachers now employed in the literary department have been reared within our own walls.

In thus testing the value of our system by the employment of the blind there has been found no cause for regret. The new teachers work with enthusiasm, and the pupils sympathize with them and assist their efforts. At the weekly examinations in the Chapel of the Institute, the exercises are most animated. The answers are exact and intelligent, and the proportion of pupils showing acquaintance with the subject, the true standard of a teacher's diligence, unusually large. And there is every reason to anticipate success in this profession for our graduates, not merely in schools for the blind, but in ordinary academies. It is true that the mode of instruction used for the blind is adapted to their needs and different from that in other schools. As not all of our pupils have the requisite delicacy of touch to read with facility the raised print, the system of specified tasks carefully prepared by the student for examination by the instructor is not available. The teacher of the blind is compelled to expound orally and by his own method. The thorough knowledge of the subject, the habit of clear and analytic statement,

and the fluent speech acquired in this way, are well known to those that have taught the blind, as an advantageous preparation for other professions or for employment in academies that have ampler means of rewarding talent. The benefits of this intellectual training will now be extended to the graduates of the Institution.

The difficulty, at first sight great, of a blind instructor conducting the recitations of a class of seeing youth from their own text-books is obviated by a very simple method. A system of dots or raised points is adopted in place of the ordinary letters of the alphabet. By means of a sharp instrument a sheet of thick paper is punctured from right to left. By reversing the paper the corresponding elevations on the opposite surface are traced by the fingers in the usual way, from left to right, with even more ease than the ordinary raised print. The invention belongs to the *Institut des Jeunes Aveugles* at Paris.\* A modification of it has been brought into use by an inmate of the Institution. A blind man can thus by the aid of a reader and a moderate amount of labor render his own the pages of any work necessary in his profession. Three modes of writing are in practical operation in this establishment. The teachers make their daily reports in pencil-mark to the Superintendent, teach and read to their classes from the raised print, and by means of the raised points bring into use new and improved text-books.

Doubts may be felt as to the ability of a blind person to preserve order and habits of subordination in a

---

\* For the introduction of this system we are indebted to Dr. John G. Adams, who purchased writing apparatus at the Institute in Paris and presented it to this Institution.

class of students, since this is as necessary to form the perfect teacher as power of illustration and skill to give facts and ideas in place of words. The blind instructor is not confined to a desk and text-book, but is at liberty to move about the lecture room, while his watchfulness of hearing quickly detects the slightest breach of discipline. It is believed that where the natural capacity exists, no difficulty will arise by reason of blindness. The undersigned can offer very strong testimony on this point. Since the posts of teachers in the Institution have been filled by its graduates, the deportment of the pupils and their attention to their duties have been unexceptionable, and the whole intercourse with the inmates is of the most pleasant and cordial nature.

Not only in this profession has the education of the blind borne good fruit, but in other walks of life, as mechanics, as manufacturers, in commercial pursuits, as musicians, and in literature, individuals have turned their early advantages to good account. Not many days pass without visits from former inmates who describe with pride their prosperity, and from their histories and suggestions new encouragement is taken for perseverance in a good work. Children redeemed from the Alms House, helpless, blind and friendless, are at this moment well-known citizens, receiving constant and honorable employment, and supporting their young families in comfort and respectability.

Few educational institutions can point to such practical results. The objection so often urged to a long academic course, that it improves the general intelli-

gence at the expense of the special knowledge which yields subsistence, fails here, for our inmates are trained assiduously in practical arts. Our graduating classes present yearly to the community a body of mechanics well trained in their respective trades, as well as with minds enlarged and manners softened by academical discipline.

Even in literature, the ornament of an accomplished education, the success of the blind has been by no means inconsiderable. The poetical works of the Misses Crosby, Bullock and Holmes are well known to the public. The letters of Mrs. De Kroypt have a pleasing style and much intrinsic merit. A work entitled "Beauties and achievements of the Blind," the joint production of Messrs. Artmann and Hall, is a judicious compilation from the writings of various authors, deprived, like themselves, of sight. The original matter is written with ability and vigour of diction, and could only proceed from men of cultivated minds. The success of this book would justify renewed literary enterprise by its authors.

In divinity, one graduate, **ADAM McCLELLAND**, gives promise of usefulness. This young gentleman was allowed by the liberality of the Union Theological Seminary of this City, to attend its course of lectures, and has since passed a very creditable examination before the presbytery of his own church. Testimonials have been received from his pastor and other clergymen expressing very high hopes from his remarkable talent.

In the application of their musical acquirements, the results are often immediate. Situations as choris-

ters and organists are secured, and where musical skill is united with general intelligence a sure means of support is found. Some of our best talent is drawn into the new schools for the blind springing up throughout the United States ; others find profitable employment as music-teachers in private families, earning in a few instances from one thousand to fifteen hundred dollars yearly. One of the graduating class of last year received at once employment yielding a yearly income of six hundred dollars. With such, blindness almost ceases to be an evil. It is pleasant to put on record the success of our young people, and the efficiency of the Institute. What parent, whatever his circumstances, would not think his sons most fortunate with such a resource, and how many public or private academies can show students stepping from their school-rooms into a lucrative pursuit ? Tuning pianos, for some time taught in the Institution at Paris, and lately introduced here, has already been found a profitable occupation. Ten or twelve young men support themselves in part, a few wholly, in this way. They follow the business chiefly in country neighborhoods or villages, establishing a circuit, and visiting at regular periods the houses of their employers. This occupation is so suited to their characteristic nicety of ear, that a single experiment proves their capability, and they readily find abundant employment.

Supported by such repeated proofs that the blind can be trained to usefulness and independence, the undersigned deplores the almost universal weakness, amounting to culpability, of the parents of blind chil-

dren, in neglecting the advantages here held out. At this moment there are numbers of blind youth in the state who are losing their best years for receiving instruction. The age of twenty-five is fixed by law as the limit for admission, for the reason that the instruction of the blind requires time and all of the docility and impressibility of youth. That so many lose the opportunity cannot be owing to want of knowledge of the objects of the Institution. No efforts are spared in this respect. Circulars are sent to all parts of the State. The census-tables are consulted, and information sought of strangers and visitors; and wherever a case of blindness is made known, a correspondence is at once opened. The result is in a degree favorable, for our numbers are increasing. But many remain, growing up in ignorance and utter helplessness, the extreme parental affection that nature inspires for unfortunate offspring, in this case standing in the way of their lasting good. Often too, this solicitude is against the wishes of the blind themselves. As an instance, a young man, who had but lately lost his sight, was hindered by the anxiety of his family from obtaining an appointment. But a resolute spirit prevailed over the melancholy of his recent blindness and the weakness of his friends. He was received as a pupil, and now, with new aims and hopes, is turning to the best account his advantages. During his first vacation, taking home a quantity of osier, he earned without difficulty a clear profit of one dollar for each day's work.

Nor would we speak unkindly of the tender feeling between blind children and their parents. Too much

is seen in our daily experience not to feel the utmost sympathy for it. One case, among many, may be mentioned, where a pupil in ill health was returned to the charge of his friends. He had entirely recovered, when, his father dying suddenly, the blind boy lost his spirits, again sickened, pined away, and soon followed his parent to the grave. Strong natural feelings should always be respected, and all proper facilities are offered for the intercourse of pupils and their friends. Their visits are received at almost every hour of the day, and in the summer vacation parties of the inmates are sent off to their homes throughout the State under the charge of officers of the Institution. But their true happiness is best consulted and best witnessed within the walls of this establishment. Here, with companions of their own class, and with constant occupation, they are no longer gloomy, inert or morose. When in the afternoon and evening the inmates swarm into the halls out of their school-rooms and work-shops, laughing, talking, singing, it is a sight that must always be viewed with pleasure. Every indulgence is allowed consistent with habits of order and the necessity for economy in our expenditures. As far as practicable, kindness is made the rule of government, and so seldom are punishments of any kind resorted to, that we may truly say we have none. Invitations are freely given by the conductors of public concerts and musical soirees. Occasional tea-parties at the Institute under the supervision of their officers are the scenes of great enjoyment, and each winter a sleighing party where the music of the bells, their own songs and merriment,

prove that blindness is not always melancholy. The intellectual tuition of the blind has little that is peculiar; it is their moral treatment where the labor lies. The undersigned has always extended to the inmates greater freedom in their associations than is usual in academies for the young. The term of pupilage, seven years, is not a small portion of a life-time, and complete seclusion during so long a period would hardly be wholesome for the seeing, certainly not for the blind. Greater responsibility and watchfulness are necessary, but there seems no doubt about the principle. Experience has shown that the blind need the stimulus of incessant occupation, whether amusement or work, and that those are happiest that ply their trades, that sing at public concerts, that teach, or visit among their friends, or make long journeys to distant parts of the country, finding at every step assistance and friendly hands and sympathy. For this the foundation is laid in their industrial and intellectual education.

In the manufacturing department the anxieties caused by the financial troubles of the year 1854, have in no respect diminished. A large number of adult blind dwelling in the vicinity of the Institute have been employed from day to day in the workshops, where their labor has been fairly remunerated. To meet their wants the workshops, at first designed only for the instruction of the pupils, have been enlarged to the scale of a manufacturing establishment. The necessity of keeping the work-people in constant employment, whatever may be the exigencies of trade, of

buying raw material, however high the price, and of selling the manufactured goods sometimes at the lowest rates, render commercial success impossible. Thus at one time, when the raw materials used in the shops, hemp and jute, could be bought at only the most exorbitant prices, and on the other hand the demand for these goods in their manufactured shape had almost entirely ceased, dealers reduced their stocks, dismissed their workmen, and manufactured only to the extent of actual orders. The Institution for the Blind, desirous of performing its whole duty, made no change in its scale of operations. It could not without injustice, dismiss the inferior workmen, retaining only the more skilful, for all were equally entitled to its good offices. It could not willingly reduce the rates of labor, for those were already placed at a bare support. The shops were kept open to all, the workmen were employed and fed, and the goods remained unsold. The consequences were ruinous.

The sales, on the contrary, it was necessary to conduct on strict mercantile principles. While purchasers might pay the full cost of production for a single mat or basket, without regard to its temporary market value, wholesale orders allowed no such deviation. The merchant must of course buy where inducements are offered.

The embarrassment was increased by the fact that a large proportion of the operatives had lost their sight in mature life, had families, and could not receive instruction as pupils. The graduates employed their labor on the goods most in demand, changing their work to suit the sales; but the former class were too

old to learn or to be employed in any but the simplest and least remunerative trades, which soon became overstocked.

To dismiss those for whom in strictness the Institution was not responsible, but whom it had gladly assisted, would remove the difficulty only for a time and in part, for the increase of our pupils and graduates would soon raise the list of work-people to its present numbers. To provide work solely for those destitute of means and friends would give no relief. The whole body of our graduates, with but few exceptions, would at once claim assistance. A guarantee of work and support would be an allurement even to those able and willing to help themselves. Every blind person whose friends chose to renounce their duties would become entitled to aid. Families in poor circumstances, and who would feel their blind relatives a tax upon them, might be led to shift their charge upon the public; and even people of means and respectability have been known to withdraw their protection from those of their own blood. Why tax the public and burthen the Institution where kindly domestic ties answer a better purpose?

These causes added to the attractions of a large city, the social freedom, and the irresponsibility of a manufacturing life, have served to vitiate the original principle of the Institution, namely, to render the blind self-dependent and self-supporting. Collectively a small number of blind have burthened the Institute with debt, while individually and scattered their labor has yielded them every comfort.

The following plan of organization is therefore laid before the board.

The prices of work obtained by the operatives is from five shillings to one dollar a day at wholesale rates, and twice that amount at retail prices. This is about the average of hire for ordinary laborers throughout the United States. In giving its graduates the capacity to accomplish this, surely the Institution performs much of its duty to the public. The difficulty is to place the blind in situations where they can find a steady sale for their wares. A large manufactory in a great city is of all places the worst for this purpose, for the sales must be at wholesale, and conducted strictly on business principles, with little assistance from philanthropy or sympathising feelings ; and even where made individually by the blind, our citizens cannot distinguish between the claims of their legitimate labor and the crowds of mendicants that besiege their doors. But in small towns or villages the toil of the educated blind will be known and rewarded. Every village throughout the country has its basket-maker, its loom for rag-carpeting, and often its mat-maker. These are the opportunities of the blind man.

Rag-carpet weaving is peculiarly suited to our needs, and should be taught to all the pupils. There is not a farmer's house in the country without its rag-carpet. The old cloth clothing of the family is cut up by the women into strips, sewed together, and sent to some neighboring loom to be woven. It was precisely in this way that one graduate supported himself and family in comfort. When "custom work" failed, he bought the rolls of cloth strips, and sold them in the shape of carpeting.

Brush-making and broom-making are means of support for blind persons graduates of other Institutions, and have been taught in this.

Here then are four or five good trades by means of which our young men can be certain of the means of subsistence. And they should ask for no more, except to be fairly started in their avocations. To do this a sum of money on graduating will be necessary. The Pennsylvania Institution liberally gives its graduates one hundred and fifty dollars. A better plan would be to allow our pupils to earn their outfit from the proceeds of their own labor.

The undersigned stated to the Board some three years since that the pupils appeared to spend too much time at their studies and that they were in danger of acquiring with their knowledge the indolent habits of students. Experience confirms this opinion. Our inmates are appointed for seven years. Four hours a day in the classes for five years will give them a better education than falls generally to the lot even of American youth.

It is therefore recommended that the two remaining years of pupilage be passed entirely in the shops, and that the profits of their labor be reserved as a graduating fund. The pupils now receive one sixth of the avails of their work. This is paid over to them on demand and spent in personal gratification. The whole profits of their labor when they have fully learnt their trades, for two years at eight or ten hours per day, would amount to at least one hundred or one hundred and fifty dollars, and should be rigidly kept for the purpose of sending them to their homes throughout

the State, and providing them with implements of labor and a stock of raw material. This system would give the pupils, what they now want, a motive for industry, would force upon them what they now do not acquire, habits of continuous daily labor, such as every laboring man should have, and would place them in a position where the Institution might fairly feel discharged of its duty towards them.

The adult blind now employed could have looms fitted up at their homes at the expense of the Institution with a small stock of raw material. Their manufactures could be received to a limited extent in the sales-room and sold for their benefit without charge or commission. Raw material to be sold to them at cost price. Orders received by our agents should be distributed among the workmen. In order that the change may be gradual, the shops should remain open for the present, and the operatives be allowed to use the looms not needed by the pupils, working up their own material and hawking their own wares. One of the blind supports himself in this way solely ; hiring a small boy to lead him, and peddling the manufactures of his fellow-workmen. Adult blind, past the age of pupilage, could be received precisely as at present, boarding themselves, and working in the mat-shop without charge for waste and attendance ; on acquiring the trade to receive a donation of a loom and a small supply of material.

In this way alone, it is believed, can the objects of the Institution be accomplished with our male graduates.

With the females much can be done, but with less certainty of profit. For male mechanics there are a small number of original and complete trades where the workman produces from the raw material some simple but finished article needed in all localities, and in every stage of society ; and the basket-maker and mat-maker, equally with the shoe-maker, tailor and blacksmith, supply the humble but unfailing wants of mankind. But women have no such sure resource, and must always depend somewhat upon circumstances for a livelihood. Their labor is often available in manufactories, but the manufacturing system has been tried and found full of difficulties. In needle-work, our pupils can master none but the coarser sorts. To support themselves by dress-making, or shirt-making, is simply out of the question.

But the Institution should not be expected to cure the evils which the inevitable laws of supply and demand create for the inferior labor of the sex. With the exception of the manufacturing sections the majority of women in this country are not self-supporting. They assist in domestic cares, repaying thus in part, and in part only, the support derived from the labor of the head of the family.

Family ties are a legitimate source of support for blind females as well as for others; and the kindest, cheapest and most effectual aid for them, will be found in the sympathies of relationship ; provided that no artificial system destroys or weakens the natural claim. Most of the female pupils of this Institute have already taken part in household occupations, such as washing,

sweeping and care of younger children. Their hands bear marks of labor. To give them greater means of usefulness in this sphere, to educate and teach them to read, so as to share their knowledge with others, to give them even accomplishments for a comfort to themselves and friends, is no small thing. They thus can be fitted for the duties of domestic life; and although it is more difficult to furnish them with trades than the other sex, yet in many instances they are able to provide for themselves; and their friends by taking advantage of circumstances, may do much towards their self-support. Thus in one instance a female graduate is employed as governess; and many teach music with more or less success. One young blind woman makes a very good living by fancy-bead work,—another earns from two to three dollars weekly by sewing buckskin mittens,—a third blind person makes carpet-bags. A number of blind women support themselves comfortably by sewing ticking for mattresses. There is abundance of coarse sewing, suitable for the blind, if pains were taken to secure it; for example the sacking used in commerce. Rag-carpet weaving is a trade given over to women in some districts, and one case is known where a blind female supports herself and child by the loom. It might be taught with advantage to the larger-sized young women.

It seems necessary that the blind, their friends and the public, should understand the limits of responsibility on the part of the Institution; that it is not an asylum, and cannot be, even for a few, except at the cost of principle and of the ultimate advantage of the

blind; and that the small number that cannot or will not provide for themselves, may be as well cared for, and more cheaply, in alms houses.

The number driven to this resource will be found extremely limited. The repugnance felt to the degraded social position of the pauper is a powerful stimulus to exertion, and the blind, like other unfortunates, would strain every nerve to avoid so dishonorable a support. Recourse will not be had to such a relief until friends, means, bodily and mental capacity entirely fail. The dread of the poor-house is in this way a hard but salutary element of society. But an asylum for the blind, with inmates refined and educated, the victims of inevitable calamity, and not of improvidence or vice, would possess the attraction of respectability as well as of succor, and would be a positive evil to society, in providing for persons whose cultivated powers should be made the means of their independent support. Most unfortunate would be such a conclusion of the hopes once formed for the blind.

It is not denied, that without some partial provision, occasional cases of hardship would arise. The immigration setting through this State leaves behind waifs of every form of misery. Blind children are brought to us who can call no living creature kinsman; others whose friends have brutally abandoned them. One child was found when an infant, lying for the third day beside its dead mother, blind, moaning, and almost lifeless. She is now a healthy and merry little girl. Such as these we cannot willingly resign to the last resort of the poor.

Frequently the otherwise salutary influence of the schools adds to this evil. We receive pupils from the least cultivated classes, mix them with others of a higher grade, give them habits of refinement and delicacy by a long course of education, and when their pupilage expires, they feel a very natural repugnance to their former mode of life. As an instance, a young girl graduated not long since, who shewed the utmost horror at the prospect of returning to her friends, to a degree that could not at the time be understood, as the latter were willing to receive her. It afterwards appeared that they were of the lowest order of emigrants, while the girl was an educated, refined and really lady-like person. Provision has since been made for her in the work-shop.

The subject is full of difficulties; on one side the baneful asylum making absolutely null the vigorous education of the Institute; on the other the sacrifice of a small but certain portion for the good of the many.

The correct principle would appear to be, that while the blind child should receive as its right a public education and the temporary support incidental thereto, the adult blind without friends or resources should depend upon the exertions of the charitable. The claim for instruction is a natural right; all further aid should be private benefaction. The school should be universal, supported by taxation, and should seek to extend its benefits to all that can profit by it, while the Refuge should be limited in numbers to the most necessitous, and in its means by the private nature of its

support. This opulent city has more than one institution for the relief of victims of some special calamity, supported entirely by the contributions of individuals. In fact the Institution for the Blind was founded, built up and sustained in practical operation for many years by the liberality of the citizens of New-York.

A home of this sort for friendless blind females, fostered in its outset by the parent Institute, but with distinct organization and management, frugally conducted so as to present no undue attraction, could be maintained at a most trifling expense. The undersigned, living among the blind, and cognizant of their histories, claims and capabilities, can at this moment present barely a half-dozen who would be entitled to this special protection. How disproportionate to the present false system with its heavy outlay, that taxes the public, draws upon the private means of the Managers of the Institution, and infringes on the rights of the pupils!

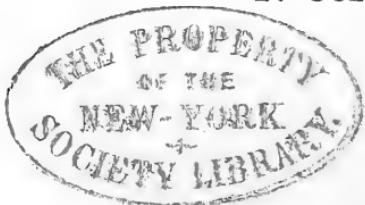
A single illustration will make plain the real difficulty. Those that have seen the blind on public occasions must have noticed the strange serenity with which they stand in the midst of crowds, in the public halls where our exhibitions are held, on the side-walks of the city with their endless currents of human life, having no fear, for they have never moved a step without the aid of some fellow-creature's arm. Now every head of a family knows how difficult it is to make the young *feel* that they must at last look to themselves for subsistence, to say nothing of success and repute; and

that the sons of wealthy men are rarely prosperous from the impossibility of realizing this responsibility to themselves except by dire experience. The blind should not become the spoiled children of a wealthy public. Their confidence in their fellow-beings, beautiful as it is, nevertheless injurious, we would replace in our young men by a better trust in themselves. To effect this the responsibility must be real, and not false and nominal, experience and indubitable facts being conclusive on this head. Their faculties have been developed by the parental care of the public, and with our own sons they must be driven by necessity, and labor and strive in good earnest.

The young blind women we return to their natural guardians, improved in bodily health, in intelligence, in every thing that adds to the influence and usefulness of women in the family circle. The few without homes or kindred must not despair, for friends will be at hand when most needed.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

T. COLDEN COOPER.



## The Committee on Finance

*Respectfully Report:*

That the amount received into your treasury during the year ending 31st ult., from various sources is \$67,691 60.

The Treasurer has disbursed during the year \$61,045 80, leaving a balance in his hands of \$6,645 80, but the outstanding debts due from the Institution are more than enough to absorb this balance.

For details of the items and disbursements for the past year, your Committee refer to the following memoranda and to the Treasurer's account here annexed.

### EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUPPLIES

For 1855.

Groceries and provisions,	-	-	-	-	\$10,800	43
Dry Goods and Clothing,	-	-	-	-	3,089	42
Wages of Matron and Servants,	-	-	-	-	2,523	54
Household Articles,	-	-	-	-	878	62
Hospital Expenses,	-	-	-	-	222	75
Postage and Stationery,	-	-	-	-	70	66
Fuel,	-	-	-	-	1,770	51
Stable Expenses,	-	-	-	-	243	80
Stage and Travelling expenses,	-	-	-	-	144	50
Gas Expenses,	-	-	-	-	494	45
Mattresses, Bedding, &c.,	-	-	-	-	962	00
						21,200 68

COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES.

Materials,	-	-	-	-	-	11,724	80
Wages to Blind and some seeing,	-	-	-	-	-	4,445	75
Salaries and Sundries,	-	-	-	-	-	4,609	29
						<u>20,779</u>	<u>94</u>

COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.

Instructors' Salaries,	-	-	-	-	1,667	37
Music and Repairs,	-	-	-	-	202	20
						1,869 57

COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION.

Instructor's Salaries, - - - - -	872 84
Books, Stationery, &c., - - - - -	340 44
	<u>1,213 28</u>

COMMITTEE ON REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS

General Repairs, - - - - -	779 39
Alteration of New-Building, - - - - -	303 16
	<u>1,082 55</u>

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

13 Months Salary for Superintendent, - - -	1,083	33
Clerk's Salary, - - - - -	147	51
Insurance, - - - - -	705	74
Amount paid on principal of Loan, - - -	1,000	00
Interest on loan from Bowery S. Bank, - -	4,200	00
Law Expenses, - - - - -	14	50
Taxes and Croton Water, - - - - -	1,251	76
Stage hire on visit of Legislature, - - -	36	00
		-----
		8,438
		84

1855.		1855.	
Jun. 1.	' To Balance due Treasurer,.....	76,125	07 Dec. 31. By cash, state pupils,.....
To Cash paid vouchers from Committees as follows:			" for sales manufactures,.....
committee on supplies.....			" donations,.....
For groceries and provisions.....	\$10,500 43		" state appropriation,.....
" dry goods and clothing,.....	3,069 42		" for rents,.....
" wages of Matron and servants,.....	2,523 54		" for board and tuition,.....
" household articles,.....	222 75		" from counties for clothing,.....
" hospital expenses,.....	1,770 51		" from New-Jersey pupils,.....
" fuel,.....	243 80		" from Commissioners of Emigration,.....
" stable expenses,.....	70 66		" from annual exhibition,.....
" postage and stationery,.....	14 50		" interest on Frizzle Fund,.....
" stage and traveling expenses,.....	494 45		" east sales of sundries,.....
" gas expenses,.....	982 00		" contribution box,.....
Mattresses, Bedding, &c.,.....		21,200	68
COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES.			
For materials,.....	11,724 80		
" wages to blind and some seeing,.....	4,415 75		
" salaries and sundry expenses,.....	4,609 39		
		20,779	94
COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.			
For instructors' salaries,.....	1,647 37		
" music and repairs,.....	202 20		
		1,850	57
COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION.			
For instructors' salaries,.....	872 84		
" books, stationery, &c.,.....	310 44		
		1,213	28
COMMITTEE ON REPAIRS & IMPROVEMENTS.			
For general repairs,.....	779 39		
" alterations of New Building.....	303 16		
		1,082	55
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.			
For Superintendent's salary, 13 months,.....	1,083 33		
" clerk's salary,.....	147 51		
" insurance,.....	705 74		
" amount paid on principal of loan,.....	1,000 00		
" interest on loan from Bowery Savings Bank, 4,300 00			
" law expenses,.....	14 50		
" taxes and crotton wifer,.....	1,251 76		
" stage hire on visit of Legislature,.....	36 00		
To balance of interest due the Treasurer,.....			
To balance to new account,.....			
		867,691 60	1856.
			Jan'y. 1.
			By balance from old account,.....
			\$57,631 60
			56,655 80

The above account only shows the receipts and payments by the Treasurer, and does not of course include the unpaid accounts due 1st of January, which amount to more than the sum of \$6,655 80, appearing by the above report in the hands of the Treasurer.

Examined and found correct,

ROBERT GRACIE,

ROBERT L. CASE,

{ COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

SILAS BROWN, TREASURER.

## DONATIONS.

The Treasurer acknowledges the receipt, during the year 1855, of the following donations, viz.:

Phelps, Dodge & Co.....	\$200	John P. Crosby.....	\$25
Edward Wood.....	100	W. Allen Butler.....	25
G. T. Olyphant.....	100	Chas. Butler.....	25
W. Curtis Noyes.....	100	B. F. Butler.....	25
Silas Brown.....	100	W. R. Thurston.....	25
Thomas U. Smith.....	100	Abram Dubois.....	25
Stewart Brown.....	100	Chas. E. Strong.....	25
Jacob R. Leroy.....	100	C. F. Dambman.....	10
Olyphant Sons.....	100	R. W. Rodman.....	10
T. H. Newbold.....	50	W. E. Laight.....	10
A. R. Walsh.....	50	Cash, J. B. Jr.....	10
Two friends of G. T. Olyphant..	20	Cash, J. G.....	5
Duncan, Sherman & Co.....	100	B. F. Butler, Jr.....	5
A friend, by G. T. O.....	20	J. W. Hall.....	5
B. F. Dawson.....	100	Wm. B. Astor.....	100
J. Walter Wood.....	100	Stephen Whitney.....	100
N. L. & G. Griswold.....	100	Geo. F. Jones.....	50
Cash, by G. T. O.....	100	Cornelia H. Smith.....	50
Goodhue & Co.....	100	Hamilton Fish.....	50
Grinnell, Minturn & Co.....	100	Mrs. Isaac Burr.....	50
Wm. E. Wilmerding.....	100	Mrs. L., per J. P. Crosby.....	25
Geo. T. Trimble.....	50	John Caswell, 2d donation.....	25
J. M. Mackey.....	50	A. A. Low & Bros.....	25
Richard Irvin.....	25	C. H. Marshall.....	25
A friend of the Institution by		Wm. Sales.....	25
Robert Gracie.....	250	A member of Calvary Church, by	
Edward Woolsey.....	250	R. Gracie.....	15
Howland & Aspinwall.....	100	A member of St. Thomas Church,	
Daniel Lord.....	100	by R. Gracie.....	15
James Donaldson.....	50	A friend by R. Gracie.....	10
Wm. M. Halsted.....	50	J. W., by J. P. Crosby.....	10
H. S. Terbell.....	50	J. K. Woolsey.....	10
Henry Young.....	50	B. N. Fox.....	10
A. R. Wetmore.....	25	J. Rich.....	10
J. F. Augustus Wood.....	50	Edmond Penfold.....	50
John T. Johnston.....	50	C. V. S. Roosevelt.....	50
Thomas Hunt.....	50	Benjamin Tatham.....	50
E. G. & T. Faile.....	50	Samuel Marsh.....	25
John Caswell.....	25	Geo. W. Blunt.....	25
A Friend, by S. Brown.....	20	James Warren.....	25
Cyrus W. Field.....	20	E. D. Morgan.....	25
Stokes & Brother.....	20	Cash, from a Stranger.....	2
S. B. Brownell.....	10	Warren Delano.....	50
Mrs. Olivia Phelps.....	10	Jas. T. Lewis & Co.....	25
R. L. & A. Stuart.....	100	H. W. Peck.....	10
Nelson Robinson.....	100	Robert Dillon.....	5
A Lady, per G. T. O.....	50	J. S. Stevenson.....	25
Augustus Schell.....	50	Mrs. M. A. C. Rogers.....	100
E. L. Beadle.....	50	Edward Wood, Annual Sub.....	10

Theodore Dehon.....	50	G. T. Olyphant, Ann. sub.	10
S. C. Williams.....	25	W. Birdsall, Jr. ....	5
J. H. Brower & Co.....	25	S. B. Brownell, 2d don'n.....	10
J. Punnett.....	25	The following collected and paid by R. I. Murray:—	
Abram S. Hewett.....	25	James Lenox .....	250
N. E. James.....	20	A Lady.....	100
Francis Hall.....	10	A Lady \$100; her neice \$10.....	115
James Browne.....	250	James R. Wood.....	25
James N. Cobb.....	100	Edwin D. Morgan.....	25
John Oothout.....	50	Benj. Tatham.....	25
S. H. & C. W. Foster.....	50	Wm. Mackay.....	1
Benkard & Hutton.....	50	James I. Jones.....	25
John & Hugh Auchincloss.....	25	B. W. Rogers.....	25
A. C. Richards.....	25	Silas Holmes.....	25
Babcock, Milnor & Co.....	25	John David Wolfe.....	30
H. A. Smythe.....	25	James Donaldson.....	25
W. C. Langley & Co.....	25	Goodhue & Co.....	25
Haggerty, Jones & Co.....	25	Joseph Sampson.....	25
Gordon & Talbot.....	20	R. L. Kennedy.....	15
John S. Bussing.....	20	John Oothout.....	20
Horace Holden.....	10	A. P. Halsey.....	10
Samuel D. Davis.....	5	B. L. Swan .....	20
Wm. B. Crosby.....	100	Mr. Newbold.....	10
W. W. De Forest.....	100	R. I. Murray.....	200
Joseph Sampson.....	100	Also received through R. I. Murray, particulars not given..	415
Edwin Hoyt.....	50	The same.....	445
Maitland, Phelps & Co.....	50		
W. H. Russel.....	50		
Mrs. W. A. Spencer.....	50		
John D. Wolfe.....	50		
Francis Many.....	25		
		Total.....	\$8,307

SILAS BROWN, *Treasurer.*

## SUNDAY DONATIONS.

Courier & Enquirer, half sub- scription.....	\$5 00	New-York Evangelist, gratis.	2 50
Commercial Advertiser, do.	5 00	“ Recorder, do.	2 50
Evening Post do.	5 00	“ Churchman, do.	2 50
New-York Daily Tribune, gratis.	6 00	“ Christian Advocate, gratis.	2 50
		Albany Semi-weekly Argus, do.	4 00

List of Articles Made in the Sewing Room by the Female Pupils  
during the year 1855:

128 Sheets.	58 Aprons.
313 Towels.	14 Table Cloths.
116 Pillow-Cases.	43 Drawers.
6 Bed-Sacks.	39 Night Gowns.
96 Handkerchiefs.	222 Napkins.
30 Shirts.	10 Night Caps.
11 Flannel Wrappers.	12 Pairs Pantaletts.
12 Cravats.	71 Chemises.
26 Skirts.	

## LIST OF STUDIES AND TEXT BOOKS.

## FIRST CLASS.

Astronomy, . . . . .	Smith.
Intellectual Philosophy, . . . . .	Abercrombie.
Moral Science, . . . . .	Wayland.
Chemistry, . . . . .	Draper.
Arithmetic, . . . . .	Thompson and raised print.
Political Economy, . . . . .	Jay and Wayland.
English Literature, . . . . .	
Physical Geography, . . . . .	Somerville.
Natural Theology, . . . . .	Paley.
Evidences of Christianity, . . . . .	Paley and Alexander.
Butler's Analogy, . . . . .	
Reading and Writing, . . . . .	

## SECOND CLASS.

Natural Philosophy, . . . . .	Olmsted.
Outlines of Ancient History, . . . . .	Bloss.
Grammar, . . . . .	Weld.
Natural History, . . . . .	Raised print.
Reading and Writing, . . . . .	

## THIRD CLASS.

Elementary Chemistry, . . . . .	Brewer.
Geography, . . . . .	Smith.
Arithmetic, . . . . .	Thompson.
Spelling and Defining, . . . . .	
Reading and Writing, . . . . .	

## FOURTH CLASS.

History, . . . . .	Dickens.
Spelling, . . . . .	Raised print.
Arithmetic, . . . . .	
Geography, . . . . .	
Reading and Writing, . . . . .	

## LIST OF PUPILS.

## M A L E S.

Names.	Town.	County.
ANTHONY, TERENCE	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
BALL, JAMES . . .	Paris, . . .	<i>Oneida.</i>
BENNETT, GEORGE . . .	Catharines, . . .	<i>Chemung.</i>
BIGGS, JOHN . . .	. . .	<i>Suffolk.</i>
BROCKWAY, ALBERT . . .	Wales, . . .	<i>Erie.</i>
BOLLERMAN, CHARLES . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
BABCOCK, STEPHEN . . .	" . . .	"
BURKE, WILLIAM . . .	" . . .	"
BOYER, DAVID . . .	. . .	
BALZAR, CHARLES, . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
BANNON, THOMAS . . .	" . . .	"
BELL, NATHANIEL, . . .	" . . .	"
CLARK, DARLING, . . .	Malone, . . .	<i>Franklin.</i>
CARROL, FRANCIS . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
CROGH, EDMUND, . . .	" . . .	"
CUTTER, GEORGE . . .	Paterson, . . .	<i>Passaic, N. J.</i>
CORRIGAN, OWEN, . . .	Brooklyn, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
CLINTON, DEWITT JOHN . . .	Willet, . . .	<i>Cortlandt.</i>
CARLL, LEWIS . . .	Flushing, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
CANFIELD, ALVAH . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
DINAN, JOHN . . .	Ellicottville, . . .	<i>Cattaraugus.</i>
DOLSTON, MORRIS . . .	Honeoye, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
DOYLE, FRANCIS . . .	Brooklyn, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
DEVINE, THOMAS . . .	" . . .	"
FALLS, JOHN . . .	Morris, . . .	<i>Otsego.</i>
FINIGAN, JAMES . . .	Ovid, . . .	<i>Seneca.</i>
FINIGAN, EUGENE, . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
GOODSELL, CHARLES . . .	Tompkins, . . .	<i>Delaware.</i>
GRAYSMAN, PETER . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
GRADY, WILLIAM . . .	Albany, . . .	<i>Albany.</i>

<b>Names.</b>	<b>Town.</b>	<b>County.</b>
GRADY, JOHN . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New- York.
GREGORY, ABRAHAM . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
HANNA ALEXANDER . . . . .	Lisbon, . . . . .	St, Lawrence.
HICKEY, ROBERT . . . . .	Eagle, . . . . .	Wyoming.
HOFFMAN, WILLIAM, . . . . .	Rochester, . . . . .	Monroe.
HOGAN, WILLIAM . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New- York.
JAMES BENJAMIN . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
KAHOE, WILLIAM . . . . .	Rochester, . . . . .	Monroe.
KAVANAGH, JAMES . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New- York.
KENNEDY, NICHOLAS . . . . .	Williamsburg, . . . . .	Kings.
KOPLER, JOHN . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New- York.
LYNCH, MICHAEL . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
ULL, ARIS . . . . .	New-Lisbon, . . . . .	Oswego.
LITLER, SAMUEL . . . . .	Florence, . . . . .	Oneida.
LANCASTER, JOHN . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
LEALY, JOHN . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
LA HAIN, ALEXANDER . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MILLER, RICHARD . . . . .	Ancram, . . . . .	Columbia.
MAHONEY, CORNELIUS . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New- York.
MORRISON, CHARLES . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MALONE, EDMUND . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MANNING, LEWIS . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MATTHEWS, JOHN . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
McARDLE, OWEN . . . . .	Albany, . . . . .	Albany.
McGRATH, TIMOTHY . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New- York.
McKENNA, PATRICK . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
McCLELLAND, ADAM . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
McMEEHAN, BARNEY . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . . . .	Kings.
McDERMOTT, MICHAEL . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New- York.
McFARLIN, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
NOYES, JOHN . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . . . .	Kings.
NUGENT, PETER, . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New- York.
OTTO, CHARLES . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
O'DONNELL, JOHN . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
O'BRIEN, JAMES H. . . . .	Lockport, . . . . .	Niagara.
PURCELL, MICHAEL . . . . .	Troy, . . . . .	Rensselaer.
PITCHER, JAMES . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New- York.
REMSEN, GEORGE W. . . . .	Brooklyn, . . . . .	Kings.
ROE, THOMAS . . . . .	Schenectady, . . . . .	Schenectady.
RUSSELL, ALFRED . . . . .	Scriba, . . . . .	Oswego.

Names.	Town.	County.
ROSET, JOSEPH . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
ROUSE, NICHOLAS . . . . .	Lawrence, . . .	<i>Otsego.</i>
ROUSE, HIRAM . . . . .	" . . . .	"
RILEY, MICHAEL . . . . .	Rahway, . . .	<i>Essex N. J.</i>
RIES, EDGAR . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
SHOTWELL, THEODORE . . . . .	" . . .	"
SHULTHIES, HERMAN . . . . .	" . . . .	"
SRAUGER, LEROY . . . . .	Franklin, . . .	<i>Delaware.</i>
STRONG, CHARLES W. . . . .	" . . . .	"
VAN HOUTEN CRINES . . . . .	" . . . .	<i>Bergen, N. J.</i>
VAN GORDER JOHN . . . . .	" . . . .	
WARRINER, WALLACE . . . . .	Weathersfield, . . .	<i>Wyoming.</i>
WHITAKER, JOHN . . . . .	Hempstead, . . .	<i>Queens.</i>
WOOD, CHARLES . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
WADDLE, JAMES . . . . .	Johnsburgh, . . .	<i>Warren.</i>
WOOD, BENJAMIN . . . . .	New Brighton, . . .	<i>Richmond.</i>

## F E M A L E S .

Names	Town.	County.
ARNOLD, LOUISA . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
BEATTIE, CHARLOTTE . . . . .	Webster, . . . . .	Monroe.
BELL, SUSAN . . . . .	Lisbon, . . . . .	St. Lawrence.
BRIDE, MARY . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
BRADLEY, MARY . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
BRIEN, MARGARET A. . . . .	" . . . . .	"
BROWN, MARGARET . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
BAKER, SUSAN . . . . .	Orange, . . . . .	Rockland.
COX, ANN. . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
CURTIS, DORINDA . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
CASSIDY, CATHARINE . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
CASLER, LANEY E. . . . .	Little Falls, . . . . .	Herkimer.
CAHILL, MARGARET . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
CONNOR, MARGARET . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
CALLEN, EMMA . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
DRAKE, ANN . . . . .	Stockholm, . . . . .	St. Lawrence.
DELOSS, CATHARINE . . . . .	Herkimer, . . . . .	Herkimer.
DUFFY, MARY JANE . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
FLEMING, PHILENA. . . . .	Geneva, . . . . .	Ontario.
FOSTER, MARY J. . . . .	Oneida, . . . . .	Madison.
FLANAGAN, MARY A. . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
GASTON, ARAMINTA . . . . .	New-Orleans, . . . . .	Louisiana.
GOODRICH EVELINE . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
GILLETT, CAROLINE . . . . .	Cayuga, . . . . .	Cayuga.
HASTINGS, MARY C. . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
HATCHMAN, ALICE . . . . .	West Farms, . . . . .	Westchester.
HEATH, MARY J. . . . .	Little Falls, . . . . .	Herkimer.
HARNEY, MARY . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
HELMAR, ELIZABETH . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
INGALLS, HARRIET . . . . .	Dansville, . . . . .	Steuben.
JOHNSON, ELLEN . . . . .	Buffalo, . . . . .	Erie.
KERTZ, GERTRUDE . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
KNOWLES, MARY . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
LONG, PATIENCE . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . . . .	Kings.
LEIGH, BRIDGET . . . . .	New-York, . . . . .	New-York.
LUXTON, CHARLOTTE A. . . . .	" . . . . .	"
LENT, CATHARINE . . . . .	Niskayuna, . . . . .	Schenectady.

<b>Names.</b>	<b>Town.</b>	<b>County.</b>
LENT, GERTRUDE . . . . .	Niskayuna, . . .	<i>Schenectady.</i>
LOUNSERG, VIRGINIA . . . . .	Brooklyn, . . .	<i>Kings.</i>
LAWSON, MARIA . . . . .	" . . .	"
MOGEL, MARGARETTA . . . . .	Williamsburg, . .	"
MARRIN, MARGARET . . . . .	Wheatland, . . .	<i>Monroe.</i>
MALONE, ELLEN . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
MALONE, ELLEN JR. . . . .	" . . .	"
McAULEY, MARGARET . . . . .	" . . .	"
McGREGOR, SUSAN . . . . .	" . . .	"
McQUADE, ELIZA . . . . .	" . . .	"
McDWELL, CATHARINE . . . . .	" . . .	"
MILLARD, LYDIA . . . . .	Catskill, . . .	<i>Greene.</i>
MILLARD, SARAH . . . . .	" . . .	"
MOORE, MARY . . . . .	" . . .	"
MURPHY, CATHARINE . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
NELSON, JULIA, . . . . .	" . . .	"
O'BEIRNE, BARBARA . . . . .	" . . .	"
OWEN, SARAH . . . . .	" . . .	<i>Cattaraugus.</i>
PHILIPS, MARGARET . . . . .	" . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
POWERS, BRIDGET . . . . .	" . . .	"
PAY, SARAH . . . . .	" . . .	"
PINNEY, MARY . . . . .	" . . .	"
QUIMBY, CAROLINE . . . . .	" . . .	"
ROBINSON, ELIZA A. . . . .	" . . .	"
REEVE, MARY A. . . . .	" . . .	"
RETTBERG, AMELIA . . . . .	" . . .	"
SCHROEDER, SARAH . . . . .	" . . .	"
SHAUGHNESSY, ELIZA . . . . .	" . . .	"
SMITH, MARGARET ANN . . . . .	" . . .	"
SMITH, MARY E. . . . .	" . . .	"
SWEET, SARAH . . . . .	Moravia, . . .	<i>Cayuga,</i>
SQUIRES, JANE . . . . .	New Hartford, . .	<i>Oneida.</i>
WOOD, ANNA . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
WATSON, ELIZA . . . . .	Brooklyn, ,	<i>Kings.</i>
WILLARD, MARTHA J. . . . .	Marlborough, ,	<i>Ulster.</i>
WYNN, MARY . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
WISWALL, LOUISA . . . . .	" . . .	"
WAIT, LYDIA . . . . .	Covington, . . .	<i>Wyoming.</i>
WHEELER, HANNAH . . . . .	New-York, . . .	<i>New-York.</i>
WHITMAN, JOSEPHINE. . . . .		

## TERMS OF ADMISSION



Pupils are received at the charge of the State of New-York, when their parents are unable to meet the cost of board and tuition. A certificate to this effect should be obtained from the Overseers of the Poor of the town where the pupil resides, in the following form :

<i>County,</i>	}
<i>New-York,</i>	

185

We, the undersigned, Overseers of the Poor in the Town of \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New-York, do hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_, of said town is blind. He was \_\_\_\_\_ years old on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ last; his moral character is good: he is free from all diseases other than those of the eyes; his blindness is permanent, and his faculties, other than those of sight, are good.

The name of his father (nearest relative or guardian) is \_\_\_\_\_, and the said \_\_\_\_\_ is not of sufficient pecuniary ability to pay either for the board, tuition, or clothing of the said \_\_\_\_\_, as a pupil of the New-York Institution for the Blind.

<i>Overseers of</i>	}
<i>the Poor.</i>	

A small charge (\$20) is collected from the County for Clothing, unless it can be provided by the friends of the applicant, in which case it should be so stated in the certificate.

The certificate is to be forwarded to Albany, to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, from whom the appointment will proceed.

Applications for admission as State pupils, from New-York or New-Jersey, must be between the ages of twelve and twenty-five years.

Pay pupils may be received, younger or older, by consent of the Board of Managers.

The charge for pay pupils, exclusive of clothing, is \$180 a year to be paid quarterly in advance.

Each pay pupil must, on entering the Institution, be supplied by his friends with a suitable bed, pillow, two pairs of sheets, three blankets, a counterpane, and four towels.

Beneficiaries from the State of New-Jersey are admitted on the order of the Governor, based upon a certificate of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the county where the pupil resides.

The Managers of the Institution would respectfully but earnestly call the attention of the officers to whom application is made for certificates of admission to that part of the certificate relating to the *moral character and mental capacity* of the candidate. The reasons why none whose moral characters are not good should be placed in an institution like this, are too obvious to require comment; and as the Institution is a place of education, and not an asylum, none should be placed in it who are incapacitated, either physically or mentally, from receiving instruction.

---

#### FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

I bequeath to my executors the sum of dollars, in trust, to pay over the same in after my decease, to the person who, when the same shall be payable, shall act as Treasurer of the New-York Institution for the Blind, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of the said Institution, and under its direction.



# TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

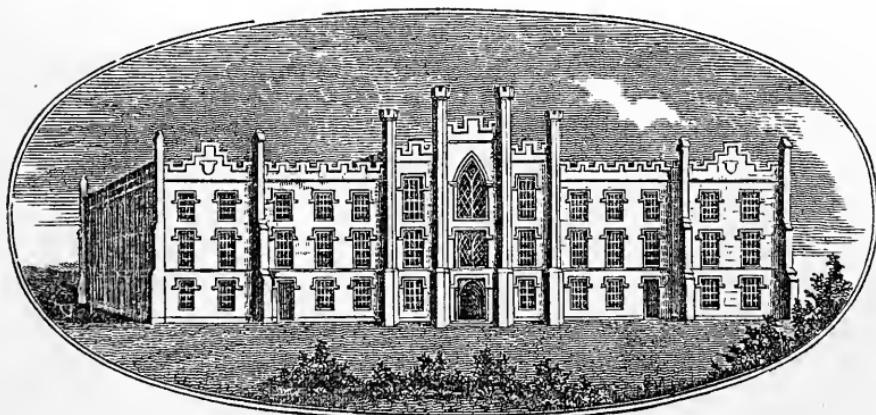
## M A N A G E R S

OF THE

# New York Institution for the Blind,

TO THE

## LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE.

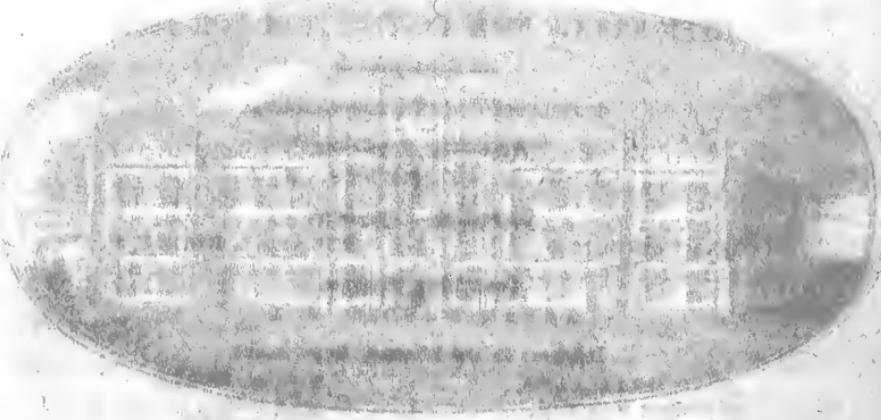


EX TENEBRIS, ORITUR LUX.

And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not. I will lead them in paths that they have not known. I will make darkness light before them.—ISAIAH, xlvi. 16.

NEW YORK:  
BAKER & GODWIN, PRINTERS,  
CORNER NASSAU AND SPRUCE STREETS.  
1858.

1875-76. The "Worship" is a



“立德立功立言”三不朽，以“立德”為首。

Figure 3. A schematic diagram of the  $\tilde{\eta}_R$  model.

从 1958 年开始，全国范围掀起“大跃进”运动，强调以钢为纲，要求钢产量翻一番，即在 1957 年的基础上增加一倍。

1500's - 1700's

於此，我們可以說，這就是我們的「新文化」。

我已将你人送至，你此去休要挂念，我自回朝了。

# Managers of the Institution,

FOR 1858.

SILAS BROWN,  
GEORGE F. ALLEN,  
ISAAC WOOD, M. D.,  
ROBERT GRACIE,  
ROBERT J. MURRAY,  
ROBERT L. CASE,  
JOHN P. CROSBY,  
AUGUSTUS SCHELL,  
GEORGE F. JONES,  
JOHN G. ADAMS, M. D.,

JAMES N. COBB,  
EDWARD L. BEADLE, M. D.,  
EDWARD WOOD,  
ALFRED W. CRAVEN,  
WM. CURTIS NOYES,  
WILLIAM DUMONT,  
JAMES WARREN,  
GEORGE P. CAMMANN, M. D.,  
LEWIS M. RUTHERFORD,  
HENRY VAN RENNSELAER.

## Officers of the Board.

ISAAC WOOD, M. D., *President.*  
ROBERT GRACIE, *Vice-President.*  
GEORGE F. ALLEN, *Recording Secretary.*  
JOHN P. CROSBY, *Corresponding Secretary.*  
SILAS BROWN, *Treasurer.*

## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION FOR 1858.

T. GOLDEN COOPER, *Superintendent.*

### Attending Physician.

J. W. G. CLEMENTS, M. D.

### Consulting Physicians.

ISAAC WOOD, M. D., | EDWARD L. BEADLE, M. D.

Consulting Surgeon,  
ABRAM DUBOIS, M. D.

### Teachers in the Literary Department.

ADAM McCLELLAND,	LOUISA MOREY,
STEPHEN BABCOCK,	ANN COX,
ELIZA D. REED,	ADA O'BRIEN,
MARY MOORE,	MARY FOSTER,
SUSAN McGREGOR.	

### Teachers in the Musical Department.

ANTHONY REIFF, (Instrumental).	SIGISMOND LASAR, (Vocal).
CORNELIUS MAHONEY, "	CHARLES HAZLETT, "
JAMES KAVANAGH, "	CATHERINE KENNEDY, "
CATHERINE CONNELL, "	ANGELINE CUTTER, "

### Matron.

MISS MARY J. ARMSTRONG.

### Teachers in the Mechanical Department.

JAMES YOUNG,	SAMUEL HUTCHINGS,
ISAAC WILLIAMS,	JOHN H. HALLOCK,
ELIZA PURDY,	MARY ANN REEVES,
MARGARET CRILLEY.	

# Standing Committees,

FOR 1858.

---

## Committee on Finance.

ROBERT GRACIE,		ROBERT L. CASE,
		GEORGE P. CAMMANN.

## Committee on Instruction.

GEORGE F. ALLEN,		EDWARD L. BEADLE,
		WM. CURTIS NOYES.

## Committee on Music.

JOHN P. CROSBY,		ALFRED W. CRAVEN,
		JOHN G. ADAMS.

## Committee on Manufactures.

ROBERT J. MURRAY,		GEORGE F. JONES,
JOHN G. ADAMS,		JAMES WARREN,
		HENRY VAN RENSSELAER.

## Committee on Supplies.

ROBERT L. CASE,		JAMES N. COBB,
		WILLIAM DUMONT.

## Committee on Repairs and Improvements.

GEORGE F. JONES,		JAMES N. COBB,
		LEWIS M. RUTHERFORD.

## Committee on the Chapel.

SILAS BROWN,		EDWARD L. BEADLE,
ROBERT GRACIE,		JOHN G. ADAMS,
WM. CURTIS NOYES,		EDWARD WOOD,
		JAMES WARREN.

## T W E N T Y - S E C O N D

# Annual Report.

---

To THE HONORABLE,  
THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK:

THE Managers of the New York Institution for the Blind, respectfully submit to the Legislature their twenty-second Annual Report, putting on record the transactions of the year eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, with the progress and present condition of the Institution under their care.

It is with feelings of great satisfaction, that the Managers are enabled to report the Institution in a prosperous condition, and as now fulfilling, to a great extent, the ardent expectations of its benevolent founders. In comparison with its limited means, (it being dependent to a great degree upon the annual appropriation from your Honorable Body,) it is confidently asserted that our Institution has accomplished as much for the benefit of the unfortunate class committed to our charge, as any similar Institution in this or foreign countries. That its prosperity may continue, and its usefulness increase, is the earnest wish and hope of those who have been entrusted with the management of its affairs.

The number of pupils at present under our care, is *one hundred and eighty-six*, being an increase of eleven during the year. Thirty pupils have left the Institution (graduates and others), and *forty-one* new pupils have been received since the period of the last Report. In addition to these, eleven blind graduates are attached to the Institution as teachers.

During the past year the pupils have been blessed in the enjoyment of an extraordinary degree of health, owing no doubt in part, to the increased attention to dietetics, and to the improved system of ventilation introduced into the halls, and especially the dormitories; together with the systematic exercise enjoined. By the report of Dr. Clements, our attending physician, whose valuable services in connection with the Institution since 1844, are still continued, it will be found that five deaths have occurred during 1857, from chronic disease. No epidemic has been permitted to invade our dwelling, or desolate our hearth-stone, as in some previous years of our history. For this great boon, the enjoyment of health, we would call to grateful remembrance the bounty of the Great Giver of Life.

The system of *instruction* adopted is divided into *three sections*,—*Intellectual, Musical, and Industrial*, and is pursued at different hours of the same day. The Instructors in the literary and musical departments, with the exception of the Professor of vocal and instrumental music, and one female teacher in the literary department, are *blind graduates*; a fact, which the Board have much satisfaction in announcing. As to the expediency of this plan, we beg leave here to quote the sentiments of M. Du FAU, the enlightened and

philanthropic Resident Director of the Blind Institution at Paris, over which he has presided since 1840, having been connected with it, since 1815. He remarks, "Experience has proved, that no instructor is better qualified for the blind pupil, than one who, born into the same state of infirmity, has known how, by persevering effort, to triumph over the obstacles which nature has imposed upon him. No one can more fitly guide the pupil in a road which he has himself traveled, and whose aspirations are so well known to him." It is proper here to remark that, in the Institution at Paris, all, both Professors and Instructors, are blind graduates.

All our pupils receive the best common-school instruction in the literary department; while those who have no taste for music, or whose ear may be defective, are encouraged to perfect themselves in learning some useful trade, by which they can make themselves capable of self-support.

*Instruction in Music* is especially insisted on, not only as a means of subsistence, but as a source of solace in their misfortune; and the Board have the satisfaction of testifying to the successful efforts of our graduates, as organists, teachers of music, and in the tuning of pianos. The choral service in our chapel, as performed every Sabbath, is an evidence of the high degree of perfection to which it is possible to attain by well-directed instruction. A distinguished writer in the January number of the Edinburgh Review, 1854, justly remarks, "The study of music affords to the blind the purest and most unmixed pleasure; for in this pursuit are they least reminded of their infirmity.

They find in it, scope for the highest imagination, as well as the deepest feelings of religion ; and when a blind man becomes a musician, he is one with his *whole heart*, giving up to this study his entire energy and thoughts."

The *Industrial Education* comprises, for the males, instruction in the manufacture of mats, mattresses, baskets, brooms, and weaving of carpets ; for the females, in band-box making, plain sewing, bead and other fancy work. It is found by experience, that greater proficiency is acquired in the manufacture of brooms, than of any other article. The pupils receive one-sixth of the avails of their labor, which is either paid over to them on demand, or, reserved as a fund until the time of graduation.

The *Religious Instruction* of our pupils is not neglected. Morning and evening prayers are attended in the chapel ; on the Sabbath, there is a Sabbath School, and morning and afternoon service in the chapel, at which all the pupils are required to be present, with the exception of those of the Roman Catholic faith, who attend one of the churches of their own denomination, in the neighborhood. The chapel is, at present, supplied by the pupils of the Protestant Episcopal Seminary, to whom the Board would, with gratitude, return thanks for their devoted and gratuitous services during the year.

It is sincerely to be desired that, ere long, we may be enabled to secure the permanent services of a Chaplain, who may officiate at morning and evening prayers, have charge of the Sunday School, assist in the literary department, and conduct public worship on the Sab-

bath. On Sunday, the 24th February, the Board had the high gratification of attending the services conducted by the Rev. Adam McLelland, a graduate of this Institution, and of the Union Theological Seminary, who had recently been licensed to preach, by the Presbytery of New York. This is the first instance of a graduate having been admitted to the high privileges of the sacred office. May others, equally well qualified, be induced to imitate his example.

The Manufacturing Department, for the employment of the *adult blind*, has continued its operations during the year, with the exception of the month of December, when, owing to the large stock accumulated, and the depressed state of trade, it was thought expedient to suspend, for a short period, all employment of the blind workmen. The Board are happy to state, that in consequence of orders for matting and brooms, the operations in this department have been partially resumed.

It must here be mentioned that this department, as in former years, has continued to be a *dead weight* upon the Institution; and experience has now fully demonstrated that it is impossible to conduct it, in any way commensurate with the wants of the blind, without incurring a loss, which it is impossible to sustain for any length of time. The loss incurred in this department, in the year 1857, amounts to \$2,003 02. Were our operations confined to the product of the labors of our pupils, we might derive from them a large profit, as is the case in the London and Liverpool Institutions; but it seems impossible to compete with the seeing workmen, in manufacturing on a large scale.

How to meet this great want of the adult blind, has for a long time occupied the serious consideration of the Board, and it has, hitherto, been unable to devise any plan which shall be effective, and free from objection. The establishment of a "*Home for the Adult Blind*," endowed, either by private liberality or the munificence of the State, seems to present the only efficient means of relief. In Paris, the Home for the Blind, ("Hospice des Quinze Vingts,") is sustained by the Government, and three hundred families are here supported, also six hundred out-door pensioners who receive 100, 150, or 200 francs per annum. This establishment, founded by St. Louis in 1260, is an honor to that great nation, whose charities exceed those of all others.

In conclusion, the Managers beg leave to refer the reports subjoined, for more detailed information, and would, most respectfully, solicit from your Honorable Body, that kind consideration, and liberal appropriation which has ever been accorded us, and without which it will be impossible properly to meet the demands of humanity.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ISAAC WOOD, PRESIDENT.  
GEO. F. ALLEN, SECRETARY.

NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR }  
THE BLIND, Jan. 1, 1858. }

COMMITTEE ON ANNUAL REPORT.

JOHN G. ADAMS, M.D., ROBERT L. CASE,  
EDWARD L. BEADLE, M.D.

## Report of Committee on Instruction.

---

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE  
NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND :

THE *Committee on Instruction* present this, their Annual Report for the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven :

At the date of the last Annual Report of this Committee, the number of our pupils was one hundred and seventy-five. Since that time we have lost, by graduation and other causes, thirty pupils, and have received forty-one new pupils ; making our number, at present, one hundred and eighty-six.

Besides the Blind who are inmates of the Institution as pupils, there are eleven blind persons, who are employed as teachers.

The studies are the same as those pursued during the last four years, and comprise all the branches of a sound English education. The only novelty is the introduction of the monitorial system into the instruction of this class ; the more advanced students being employed as teachers of the younger pupils. The salutary effects of this system are evident in more than one direction.

The newly arranged maps are in most successful use in the geographical classes, and enable us to make

physical and political geography entirely intelligible to the Blind.

The Braillé system of writing is now practiced by a number of our pupils. This is the best one yet devised for the use of the Blind. It has received a fresh impulse from Mr. M'Clelland, an alumnus of our Institution, and teacher in the male department. Mr. M'Clelland has invented a new writing-frame, which will put it within the reach of the blind generally. This is a most important advance, and makes Mr. Braillé's important invention a still more valuable instrument in the education of the Blind.

The expenditure of the Department of Instruction, ending the year 1857, has been as follows:

For Salaries of Teachers, . . . . .	\$990 20
For Books, Stationery, &c., . . . . .	377 65
Making a total of . . . . .	\$1,367 85

In conclusion, your Committee feel much gratification in being able to report that the important department entrusted to their care has been satisfactorily conducted during the year which is now closing. The teachers have been faithful and efficient, and the proficiency of the pupils has been abundantly displayed at the public exhibitions and the weekly examinations at the Institution.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

GEO. F. ALLEN,  
EDW. L. BEADLE,  
A. SCHELL, } *Committee on  
Instruction.*

December 29, 1857.

# List of Pupils.

---

## M A L E S.

Names.	Town.	County.
ANTHONY TERENCE,	<i>New York,</i>	New York.
AYRES HUDSON,	<i>Morris,</i>	New Jersey.
BALL JAMES,	<i>Paris,</i>	Oneida.
BIGGS JOHN,		Suffolk.
BOLLERMAN CHARLES,	<i>New York,</i>	New York.
BABCOCK STEPHEN,	"	"
BOYER DAVID,		—
BALZAR CHARLES,	<i>New York,</i>	New York.
BANNON THOMAS,	"	"
BURNHAM ALFRED,	<i>Tompkinsville,</i>	Richmond.
BROOKS JOSEPH,	<i>New York,</i>	New York.
BELL NATHANIEL,	"	"
BROOKINS C. H.,	<i>Tioga,</i>	Broome.
CARROLL FRANCIS,	<i>New York,</i>	New York.
CARPENTER WILLIAM,	<i>Ellenburgh,</i>	Clinton.
CLINTON JOHN D.,	<i>Willett,</i>	Cortlandt.
CARL LEWIS,	<i>Flushing,</i>	Queens.
CRAW GEORGE W.,	<i>New York,</i>	New York.
CANFIELD ALVAH,	"	"
CESSFORD WILLIAM,	<i>Princetown,</i>	Schenectady.
CONNELLY JOHN,	<i>New York,</i>	New York.
DINAN JOHN,	<i>Ellicottville,</i>	Cattaraugus.
DOYLE FRANCIS,	<i>Brooklyn,</i>	Kings.
DORRITY JOHN,	<i>New York,</i>	New York.
DEVINE THOMAS,	<i>Brooklyn,</i>	Kings.
FALLS JOHN,	<i>Morris,</i>	Otsego.
FARRILL MARTIN,	<i>Hounsfield,</i>	Jefferson.
FISH AUGUSTUS D.,		Greene.
FINIGAN JAMES,	<i>Ovid,</i>	Seneca.
FLETCHER THOMAS,	<i>Albany,</i>	Albany.

Names.	Town.	County.
FINIGAN EUGENE, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
FULLER HARVEY, . . . . .	<i>Ellisburgh</i> , . . . . .	Jefferson.
GARDNER HIRAM, . . . . .	<i>Freetown</i> , . . . . .	Cortlandt.
GOODSELL CHARLES, . . . . .	<i>Tompkins</i> , . . . . .	Delaware.
GRAYSMAN PETER, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
GRADY WILLIAM, . . . . .	<i>Albany</i> , . . . . .	Albany.
GRADY JOHN, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
GREINER BERNHARD, . . . . .	<i>Buffalo</i> , . . . . .	Erie.
GREGORY ABRAHAM, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
HAGAR CLEMENT, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
HANNA ALEXANDER, . . . . .	<i>Lisbon</i> , . . . . .	St. Lawrence.
HERR JOSEPH, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
HICKEY ROBERT, . . . . .	<i>Gainesville</i> , . . . . .	Wyoming.
HAYS JOHN, . . . . .	<i>Brooklyn</i> , . . . . .	Kings.
HOFFMAN WILLIAM, . . . . .	<i>Rochester</i> , . . . . .	Monroe.
HONNECKER NICHOLAS, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
HOGAN WILLIAM, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
HOWARD GEORGE, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
JAMES BENJAMIN, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
KENNEDY NICHOLAS, . . . . .	<i>Williamsburgh</i> , . . . . .	Kings.
KOPLER JOHN, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
LITTLER SAMUEL, . . . . .	<i>Florence</i> , . . . . .	Oneida.
LEALLY JOHN, . . . . .	— . . . . .	—
LADEN THOMAS, . . . . .	<i>Albany</i> , . . . . .	Albany.
LOCKWOOD VARELA, . . . . .	<i>Portage</i> , . . . . .	Livingston.
LA HAIN ALEXANDER, . . . . .	<i>Bangor</i> , . . . . .	Franklin.
MILLAR RICHARD, . . . . .	<i>Ancram</i> , . . . . .	Columbia.
MAHONEY CORNELIUS, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
MARTIN PATRICK, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MORRISON CHARLES, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MALONE EDMUND, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MANNING JAMES, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MILLS WILLIAM H., . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
M'INTYRE DAVID, . . . . .	<i>Richford</i> , . . . . .	Tioga.
M'KENNA PATRICK, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
M'DERMOTT MICHAEL, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
MOWER DAVID, . . . . .	<i>Saugerties</i> , . . . . .	Ulster.
MOTT EDMUND, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
NOYES JOHN, . . . . .	<i>Brooklyn</i> , . . . . .	Kings.
OTTO CHARLES, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
O'DONNELL JOHN, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
O'BRIEN JAMES H., . . . . .	<i>Lockport</i> , . . . . .	Niagara.

Names.	Town.	County.
OSBORNE JOHN, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
PURCELL MICHAEL, . . . . .	<i>Troy</i> , . . . . .	Rensselaer.
REMSSEN GEORGE W., . . . . .	<i>Brooklyn</i> , . . . . .	Kings.
RILEY HUGH, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
ROBBINS WARREN, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
ROSET JOSEPH, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
ROSCOE LYMAN T. W., . . . . .	<i>New Rochelle</i> , . . . . .	Westchester.
ROUSE NICHOLAS, . . . . .	<i>Laurence</i> , . . . . .	Otsego.
ROUSE HIRAM, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
RILEY MICHAEL, . . . . .	<i>Rahway</i> , . . . . .	Essex, N. J.
ROCK MICHAEL, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
SHIRLEY GABRIEL, . . . . .	<i>Schenectady</i> , . . . . .	Schenectady.
SHOTWELL THEODORE, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
SAUNDERS JOSEPH, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
SCHULTIES HERMAN, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
SOUCI EDWARD, . . . . .	<i>Granby</i> , . . . . .	Oswego.
SRAUGER LEROY, . . . . .	<i>Franklin</i> , . . . . .	Delaware.
ST. LAURENCE JAMES, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.
TREADWELL WILLIAM H., . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
VAN GORDER JOHN, . . . . .	<i>Haskensville</i> , . . . . .	Steuben.
WARRINER WALLACE, . . . . .	<i>Weathersfield</i> , . . . . .	Queens.
WHITTAKER JOHN, . . . . .	<i>Hempstead</i> , . . . . .	Kings.
WADDLE JAMES, . . . . .	<i>Johnsburgh</i> , . . . . .	Richmond.
WOOD BENJAMIN, . . . . .	<i>New Brighton</i> , . . . . .	"
WESTERVELT JOHN, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . . . .	New York.

## F E M A L E S.

Names.	Town.	County.
ARNOLD LOUISA, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
BELL SUSAN, . . . . .	<i>Lisbon</i> , . . .	St. Lawrence.
BRENNAN EMMA, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
BROWN MARGARET, . . . . .	" . . .	"
BAKER SUSAN, . . . . .	<i>Orange</i> , . . .	Rockland.
BARKER HANNAH, . . . . .	<i>Brooklyn</i> , . . .	Kings.
BLAKE FANNY, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
COX ANN, . . . . .	" . . .	"
CURTIS DORINDA, . . . . .	" . . .	"
CASLER LANEY E., . . . . .	<i>Little Falls</i> , . . .	Herkimer.
CASLER DELIA S., . . . . .	" . . .	"
CAHILL MARGARET, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
CAMPBELL MARGARET E., . . . . .	" . . .	"
CONNOR MARGARET, . . . . .	" . . .	"
CALLEN EMMA, . . . . .	" . . .	"
COLES LOUISA, . . . . .	<i>Manhasset</i> , . . .	Queens.
DELOSS CATHARINE, . . . . .	<i>Herkimer</i> , . . .	Herkimer.
DUFFY MARY JANE, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
FEENY MARY, . . . . .	" . . .	"
FOSTER MARY JANE, . . . . .	<i>Oneida</i> , . . .	Madison.
FLANAGAN MARY A., . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
GOODRICH EVELINE, . . . . .		
GILLETT CAROLINE, . . . . .	<i>Cayuga</i> , . . .	Cayuga.
GREEN ELEANOR, . . . . .	<i>Adams</i> , . . .	Jefferson.
GREEN SUSAN, . . . . .	<i>Potters</i> , . . .	Yates.
HASTINGS MARY C., . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
HAMMOND ANN L., . . . . .	<i>Mount Pleasant</i> , . .	Westchester.
HATCHMAN ALICE, . . . . .	<i>West Farms</i> , . .	"
HEATH MARY JANE, . . . . .	<i>Little Falls</i> , . . .	Herkimer.
HELMER ELIZABETH, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
HOMER ELLEN SIMPSON, . . . . .	" . . .	"
HOWARD HARRIET, . . . . .	<i>Buffalo</i> , . . .	Erie.
INGALLS HARRIET, . . . . .	<i>Dansville</i> , . . .	Steuben.
JOHNSON ELLEN, . . . . .	<i>Buffalo</i> , . . .	Erie.
KURTZ GERTRUDE, . . . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
KELLY MARY JANE, . . . . .	" . . .	"
KNOWLES MARY, . . . . .	" . . .	"
KILLETT MARGARET, . . . . .	" . . .	"
LEIGH BRIDGET, . . . . .	" . . .	"

Names.	Town.	County.
LEIGHTON MARY M., . . .	<i>Beemerville</i> , . . .	Sussex, N. J.
LUXTON CHARLOTTE A., . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
LENT CATHERINE, . . .	<i>Niskayuna</i> , . . .	Schenectady.
LENT GERTRUDE, . . .	" . . .	"
LOUNSBERRY VIRGINIA, . . .	<i>Brooklyn</i> , . . .	Kings.
MOGEL MARGARET, . . .	<i>Williamsburgh</i> , . . .	"
MALONE ELLEN, . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
MALONE ELLEN, JR., . . .	" . . .	"
M'GREGOR SUSAN, . . .	" . . .	"
M'AVOY MARY, . . .	<i>Richmond</i> , . . .	Richmond.
M'QUADE ELIZA, . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
M'DOWELL CATHARINE, . . .	" . . .	"
MILLARD LYDIA, . . .	<i>Catskill</i> , . . .	Greene.
MILLARD SARAH, . . .	" . . .	"
MILLS ZELONA, . . .	<i>Adams</i> , . . .	Jefferson.
MOORE MARY, . . .	<i>Catskill</i> , . . .	Greene.
MURPHY CATHERINE, . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
MULLEN MARY ANN, . . .	" . . .	"
NELSON JULIA, . . .	" . . .	"
O'BEIRNE BARBARA, . . .	" . . .	"
O'BRIEN MARGARET A., . . .	" . . .	"
OWEN SARAH, . . .	" . . .	Cattaraugus.
PADDOCK SUSAN, . . .	<i>Lebanon</i> , . . .	Madison.
PHILLIPS MARGARET, . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
POWERS BRIDGET, . . .	" . . .	"
PAY SARAH, . . .	" . . .	"
PETERSON CELIA, . . .	" . . .	Schoharie.
PINNEY MARY, . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
RUGG MARY JANE, . . .	<i>Leyden</i> , . . .	Lewis.
REEVES MARY ANN, . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
RETTBERG AMELIA, . . .	" . . .	"
RILEY CATHERINE, . . .	<i>Watervliet</i> , . . .	Albany.
ROBERTS MARGARET, . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
SIMMONS ELIZA C., . . .	<i>Walton</i> , . . .	Delaware.
SMITH MARGARET ANN, . . .	<i>New York</i> , . . .	New York.
SMITH LAURA, . . .	" . . .	"
SMITH MARY E., . . .	" . . .	"
STROMINGER CAROLINE, . . .	" . . .	"
SWEET SARAH, . . .	<i>Moravia</i> , . . .	Cayuga.
SQUIRES JANE, . . .	<i>New Hartford</i> , . . .	Oncida.
STANFORD MARGARET, . . .	<i>Auburn</i> , . . .	Cayuga.
TILLOTSON HANNAH S., . . .	<i>Harmony</i> , . . .	Chautauque.

Names.	Town.	County.
WYNN MARY, . . . . .	New York, . . . . .	New York.
WEIBOLL MARIA JOSEPHINE,	" . . . . .	"
WISWALL LOUISA, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
WHEELER HANNAH, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
WHITMAN JOSEPHINE, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
WEIR ELLEN, . . . . .	" . . . . .	"
WALKER ANN, . . . . .	Northfield, . . . . .	Richmond.
WOLFE CATHERINE, . . . . .	Essex, N. J.	

---

## List of Studies.

---

ASTRONOMY.

INTELLECTUAL PHILOSOPHY, AND  
MORAL SCIENCE.

CHEMISTRY.

ARITHMETIC.

POLITICAL ECONOMY.

ENGLISH LITERATURE.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.

NATURAL THEOLOGY, AND EVID-  
ENCES OF CHRISTIANITY.

BUTLER'S ANALOGY.

NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

ANCIENT AND MODERN HISTORY.

OUTLINES OF ANCIENT HISTORY.

GRAMMAR.

NATURAL HISTORY.

ELEMENTARY CHEMISTRY.

GEOGRAPHY.

SPELLING.

ARITHMETIC.

READING AND WRITING.

WRITING IN RAISED POINTS.

# Report of Committee on Supplies.

---

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS  
OF THE NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

THE *Committee on Supplies* report that for the year 1857, they have made their usual visits to the Institution, both at the stated weekly meetings of the Committee, and at other times. They have endeavored to study such economy in the purchase of supplies, that the health of the pupils would be cared for as well as the means of the Institution.

They also report that the health of the inmates of the establishment, and the regularity and order thereof, have been such for this year, that they feel in duty bound to commend, as well as express their thanks to, the Superintendent and other officers for their assiduity, kindness, and care over the Institution and all its interests.

The Committee held their last meeting on the 30th, and report that not a single inmate of the Institution, thanks to a kind and overruling Providence, is on the sick list.

Annexed is a statement of expenditures by the Committee for 1857; also a list of articles made in the sewing-room, by the female pupils, during the year.

ROBERT L. CASE,  
WILLIAM DUMONT.  
WILLIAM M. ABBATT.

## Report of Committee on Music.

---

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE  
NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND :

THE Committee on *Music* beg leave to Report,  
That the instruction of the pupils in *music*, both  
*vocal and instrumental*, continues to hold a prominent  
place in the system of education pursued in the Insti-  
tution, and that the present acquirements of the pupils  
in this department are in no respects inferior, and in  
some regards superior, to those of former years. In  
the cultivation of *sacred music*, more particularly with  
a view to the choral service in the Chapel, there has  
been decided progress, under the instruction of Mr.  
Sigismund Lasar, Professor of Vocal Music; while the  
valuable services of Mr. Antony Reiff, Professor of In-  
strumental Instruction, (who has for nearly twenty  
years been connected with the Institution,) are still  
continued. Both of these gentlemen have discharged  
their important duties to the entire satisfaction of your  
Committee. The assistant blind instructors—Charles  
Haslett and Cornelius Mahoney in the Male Depart-  
ment, with Catharine Kennedy, Catherine Connell, and  
Angeline Cutter, in the Female Department—are still  
attached to the Institution, and have faithfully dis-  
charged their respective duties. Sixty-four pupils are  
now under instruction in vocal music, eighty-three in

practice of the piano-forte, and fifteen male pupils in band practice.

The expenditures for 1857 have been as follows:

For salaries of Instructors:

Prof. Antony Reiff (in part payment of Salary),	..	\$160 00
Prof. Sigismund Lasar,	..	600 00
Cornelius Mahoney,	..	200 00
Catherine Kennedy (salary and board),	..	88 50
Angeline Cutter,	..	68 75
Catherine Connell,	..	68 75
Charles Haslett,	..	60 00
Edward Howe,	..	30 00
For tuning and repairing pianos—J. H. Luther's bill,	..	85 00
“ “ organs—Hall & Labagh's bill,	..	30 00
Musical Instruments and repairs—Ed. Baach's bill,	..	10 22
Music purchased,	..	18 25

The Committee beg leave, in this connection, to return their thanks to the Managers of the Philharmonic Society, for their liberality in furnishing tickets for their concerts to our advanced pupils, thus enabling them to form a correct taste by hearing the best standards of music, both vocal and instrumental.

In conclusion, your Committee have great pleasure in reporting the prosperous condition of this department, and would especially commend it to continued favor, as furnishing the most effectual means for self-support for the objects of our charge.

JOHN G. ADAMS, M. D.  
JOHN P. CROSBY.  
ALFRED W. CRAVEN.

# Report of Committee on Manufactures.

---

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND :

THE *Committee on Manufactures* respectfully report:

That during the past year they have given employment to thirty adult blind persons. The statement of expenses and receipts in this department will be found in the Treasurer's report. The total loss for the year 1857, is \$2,003 02.

Respectfully submitted.

ROBERT J. MURRAY,  
WILLIAM M. ABBATT,  
GEORGE F. JONES,  
G. TALBOT OLYPHANT,  
JAMES N. COBB,

*Committee on Manufactures.*

January 1st, 1858.

---

## ARTICLES MANUFACTURED.

Mats, . . . . .	\$4,795 54
Willow-work, . . . . .	387 53
Band Boxes, . . . . .	1,769 12
Mattresses, . . . . .	1,010 82
Brooms, . . . . .	446 18
Rag Carpeting, . . . . .	54 62
Fancy Work, . . . . .	316 04
General Expenses, . . . . .	1,819 80
Materials Purchased, . . . . .	6,538 03
Wages to Blind, . . . . .	3,248 80
Wages to Seeing, . . . . .	1,933 60

## R E P O R T

OF THE

# Committee on Repairs and Improvements.

---

To THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND :

THE *Committee on Repairs and Improvements* respectfully report :

That during the past year there has been expended the sum of \$2,702 62 ; and notes of the Institution have been given to the amount of \$3,638 59.

This large outlay became necessary to accommodate the increasing number of the inmates. The improvements comprise two spacious dormitories, a large and commodious dining-room, school-rooms, domestic apartments, sick-rooms fitted with every comfort, a new laundry, dressing-room, and music-rooms. The outside wood-work of the house and premises has been thoroughly painted, and the roofs put in good order.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE F. JONES,

JAMES N. COBB,

ALFRED W. CRAVEN,

*Com. on Repairs and Improvements.*

January 1st, 1858.

## Report of Committee on Finance.

---

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS  
OF THE NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND :

THE *Committee on Finance* respectfully report :

That the amount received into your treasury during the year ending 31st ult., from various sources, is \$49,704 47.

The treasurer has disbursed \$48,440 36 during the year, leaving a balance in his hands of \$1,264 11.

For details of the items of receipts and disbursements for the past year, your Committee refer to the treasurer's account and memoranda, hereto annexed, and arranged in usual order.

Respectfully submitted.

ROBERT GRACIE,  
ROBERT L. CASE,  
G. TALBOT OLYPHANT,  
*Finance Committee.*

January 1st, 1858.

Dr.

New York Institution for the Blind in Account with  
SILAS BROWN, Treasurer.

Cr.

1857.

Dec. 31. To cash paid vouchers from Committee, as follows:

## COMMITTEE ON SUPPLIES.

For Butchers' Meat, \$4,153 99
" Salt Pork..... 239 48
" Rice..... 41 30
" Butter..... 2,195 84
" Tea..... 188 57
" Coffee..... 145 84
" Flour..... 1,748 94
" Sugar..... 677 68
" Molasses..... 119 73
" Potatoes..... 322 88
" Hospital..... 505 38
" Wood..... 182 12
" Coal..... 1,691 71
" Hard Soap..... 107 65
" Soft Soap..... 55 36
" Milk..... 578 50
" Household..... 343 39
" Fruit..... 84 01
" Groceries..... 1,119 72
" Poultry..... 150 82
" Fish..... 200 83
" Eggs..... 33 34
" Vegetables..... 267 91
" Board of colored pupils..... 357 67
" Starch..... 18 05
" Straw..... 14 84
" Crockery..... 75 88
" Woodenware.... 62 26
" Tinware..... 52 72
" Furniture..... 127 13
" Postage..... 63 51
" Stationery, &c.... 68 74
" Ice..... 85 27
" Gas Light..... 394 71
" Stoves, H'dw'e, &c. 890 04
" Wages of Matron and Servants.. 2,670 24
" Dry Goods and Clothing..... 2,659 22
" Cheese..... 271 73
" Stage fare and traveling expenses..... 313 63
" Smoked Beef.... 270 13
" Burials..... 68 57
" Turnips..... 189 41
" Stable..... 287 15

\$24,040 29

## COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES.

For Materials..... \$4,900 95
" Wages to Blind, and seeing.... 7,410 26
" Sundries..... 432 21

12,743 42

## COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.

For Inst'r's Salaries \$1,279 00
" Music and Re-pairs..... 154 88

1,433 88

## COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION.

For Inst'r's Salaries \$990 28
" Books, &c..... 377 65

1,367 98

## COMMITTEE ON REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

For General Repairs and alterations
9th Av. bull'g \$2,557 40
" Do. 8th " 145 22

2,702 62

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

For Supt.'s Salary \$1,000 00
" Clerk's Salary... 150 00
" Insurance..... 751 72
" Interest on loan from Bowery Savings Bank 4,090 00
" Taxes and Croton Water.... 171 00

6,152 72

To balance to new account.... 1,264 11

1857.

Jan. 1. By Balance from old account.. \$416 72
" Cash State Pupils..... 23,935 17
" " for Sales of Manufactures..... 9,587 07
" " for Rents..... 9,820 16
" " from Counties for clothing..... 3,230 00
" " from Donations and Legacies..... 920 00
" " for Board and Tuition. 808 98
" " from State of New Jersey... 569 30
" " for Sales of Sundries.. 136 00
" " Interest on Frizzle Fund..... 125 13
" " Contribution Box.... 44 23
" " Net Proceeds of Exhibition..... 61 71

\$49,704 47

1858.

Jan. 1. By Balance from old account, \$1,264 11

SILAS BROWN,  
Treasurer.ROBERT GRACIE,  
ROBERT L. CASE,  
G. TALBOT OLYPHANT, { Committee  
on Finance.

\$49,704 47

# Report of Superintendent.

---

GENTLEMEN :—

THE undersigned begs leave to present his Report for the year 1857.

The number of pupils on our list for the previous year was one hundred and seventy-five. The number, at present, is one hundred and eighty-one. Eleven graduates are employed as instructors, or as assistants in the domestic establishment—making, in all, one hundred and ninety-two blind inmates receiving education or the means of support in the School for the Blind.

Beside these, many blind men, dwelling with their families, are employed in the shops. Their number varies from thirty to sixty, according to the demand for our manufactures.

The health of the inmates at the commencement of the year 1857 was by no means satisfactory. The blind, when first placed in our care, seldom have good health. Their inactive habits predispose them to sickness, and not a small proportion have consumptive or scrofulous tendencies. For these, pure air and dry and well-ventilated apartments are absolutely necessary. The great increase in our numbers had filled the school-rooms, dormitories, and dining-rooms to overflowing. The Board of Managers, alive to their respon-

sibilities, have made the requisite changes; new dormitories have been opened, a large and handsome refectory has been fitted up, additional school-rooms arranged for the pupils, and the airiest and best rooms in the house prepared for the comfort of the sick. These alterations have been perfected, through the general financial difficulties, that have affected the means of even this old and cherished Institution.

But the result has justified every expense incurred. The health of the inmates was never better than at this moment; and cheerfulness and contentment are the fruits of a due regard for natural laws.

In the schools, the progress of the pupils is satisfactory. The course of studies comprises all the branches of a sound English education. The teachers are mostly blind persons, pupils or graduates of the Institution. Formerly, the employment of the blind as teachers was supposed to be attended with so many difficulties, that this useful principle was never thoroughly tested. It was feared that order could not be preserved in a class under the charge of a blind instructor, or that loss of sight would not allow the requisite study and research to perfect him in his important duties. But, during the last four years, the system has gradually been introduced by the undersigned, and at this moment we have twenty-one blind teachers and assistants of various ages, of whose success with their classes a single visit to the schools will satisfy the most incredulous. As the principal of this academy, I can emphatically say, that at no time was the general proficiency of the pupils at a higher standard. And, as regards the deportment of the inmates, their habits, and respectful attention to the

wishes of their teachers,—the improvement is marked and truly encouraging. There is nothing more pleasant than the intercourse of the blind pupils with their blind teachers. And this, not from some mysterious sympathy or companionship in misfortune, for we have never been able to discover anything of that sort, but, because the teacher is one of them—raised from the ranks, with common associations and common aims. Doubtless, in time, this sympathy would cease; and from the universal law of privileged classes, the teacher would draw apart from the scholar, and the bond be broken. But it is not contemplated to retain any individuals permanently. The post of instructor is a step of progress. The more advanced have charge of the junior pupils, and, when graduated, a portion are retained by reason of their talent and faithfulness. To these, moderate salaries are given, as much for honorable distinction as for profit. But all, at length, pass away into other occupations which circumstances, or their own energy, may open.

The young men, most of whom must assuredly seek their support in some mechanical employment, will find their studies fixed upon their minds by the excellent mental training of teaching; and before they reach middle life, will realize the immense advantage of a thorough education.

The young women will return to their homes throughout the country, whence a large proportion of our pupils come to us. Every one knows the difficulties our rural neighborhoods labor under in procuring the slenderest education for their children. The cause is less the lack of means, than the comparative thinness

of our population ; the farm-houses scattered far apart, and the way to the school-house lying, perhaps, for miles over rough roads. A young woman coming from a great metropolitan school, impressed with the refinements, but not the finery, of life, accomplished in music, trained to the use of the needle, and a skilful teacher,—cannot fail to be of service to those around her ; she *must* be able to render herself no longer a burthen, but a happy feature in the household. And so the little blind infant, who at first saddened all hearts, but was, unknown to them, a messenger of the gentlest affections, may find her great deprivation changed to a supreme blessing.

The system described above, is not practiced to any extent in other Institutions for the Blind in the United States, or in Great Britain. But in the Institute at Paris, the blind are systematically employed as instructors, and their reports speak with great encouragement of our attempts in the same direction.

The subject of academical discipline, can hardly receive justice within the limits of this report. But there is one point of too great importance to be passed over in silence. The use of the rod in schools has always been a matter of uncertainty and anxious reflection to every right-minded school-master. Of course, no one will imagine that government of old or young can exist without some mode of restraint,—some check upon the wayward and vicious, when all gentler means fail. Those that would not spare the rod to spoil the child, find in corporal chastisement a merciful correction. The pain is short lived, the child is humbled, not necessarily humiliated, and the cheerfulness of youth drives

away the clouds with the disturbing cause. No sort of correction of juvenile delinquencies causes less ill-humor, or brooding, revengeful feeling, while the reverse is seen in other means. Every parent knows, for instance, that a child sent in disgrace to bed, has disturbed, combative dreams, and rises in the morning irritable and melancholy. Is it wise, or just, to distemper the mind of childhood, when we well know that these moods of childish feeling are the germs of the man's nature?

At a convention of Teachers of the Blind, held in August, 1853, comprising men eminent in their vocation, many of whom were themselves blind, it was found "that the fact of blindness should make no difference in the discipline of children."

Nevertheless, for nearly four years the use of the rod has been discontinued in this Institute. That its abandonment in a school for blind, if really for the good of the pupil, is in other ways desirable, no one can doubt. For, the habitual castigation of youth is at best a very disagreeable duty; and when the tears stream from inflamed and vacant eye-lids, it becomes revolting. And it is worse for the master, than for the school-boy. In spite of himself, he will become blunted to suffering in humble, helpless creatures.

But, in short, there is *no need of punishment of any kind.* The influences that rule a school are *intellectual.* Let the scholar be thoroughly interested, and he follows the teacher with magnetic certainty. If the departments are well organized, the teachers well selected, outside and evil influences kept at arms-length, and, above all, the heart of the pupil entirely in love with

the pursuit of knowledge, as only young persons can be, and all difficulties vanish. If coercion must sometimes be necessary, let it be moral, if possible. Above all, it should *anticipate and compel the performance of duty*. But patience, even where it seems no longer a virtue, friendly remonstrance, reasonable explanation, and, at the last, the hearty and decisive order, will suffice to render this school all that its friends can desire.

These happy results have not been reached without effort; for, if most blind children are docile and humble and lovely in their character beyond what can be imagined, others again, from depraved natures or unfortunate antecedents, manifest a most extraordinary degree of impishness. We have them too, of all ages and from all classes of society; from comfortable country homes and from the cabin of the emigrant, from city parlors, and from the crowded quarters of laborers. Some of our sweetest and purest little girls have been taken from the arms of depraved mothers. We know that in pity and protection the hand of God has closed their eyes.

To the young men and women, senior pupils and graduates, who have co-operated in this good work, I wish thus publicly to express my thanks. They have been faithful to their trust, and should be well remembered by the management of the Institution.

There are other matters of importance to the cause of public instruction which the peculiarities of a school for the blind present in novel aspects, but which deserve a more extended notice than the limits of this report permit.

Such, for instance, as the example shown in our musical studies, of instructing all the pupils of a common

school in some refining taste, counteracting the cold material prosperity of this country and age. The schools for design, attached to academies in continental Europe have similar objects, and are well suited to the mechanical genius of our people.

Also the training educated and accomplished young men to some manual calling, to throw a direct and useful influence upon the working-men with whom their lot is cast. To dignify the life of artisans and mechanics, gives the only practical check to the great social folly of thrusting the youth of certain classes into professional and mercantile pursuits, without a thought given to their strength of character, or mental capacity.

Matters of this nature properly belong to an academy that takes the child entirely from the cares of the parent, afterwards conducts him through the dangers of adolescence, and at last places him tenderly amid the responsibilities of life.

The subject of adult blind has been so thoroughly treated in former reports, that further discussion is only necessary to answer objections raised abroad to the system of self-support advocated at this Institution. Between Schools for the Blind in Europe and those in this country, there is an economical element as wide and deep as the sea that divides the two countries. The rates of labor in Europe fluctuate little from the bare cost of subsistence; often below, seldom far above the level. Here, on the western frontier, the laboring man can earn, by twelve or fifteen years' patient industry, house, lands, and all the comforts of an independence. This well-known and indubitable fact is felt in every nook and corner of the land, draining the older States of the working class, until, in some portions of the country,

population has of late decreased. The reward of labor is proportionately raised, except in the seaboard cities where it is met by the pressure of an immense immigration.

Now, it is to this margin between the cost of subsistence and the rewards of industry, that we would trust the cause of the class we represent. Even the blind man, with his inferior or deficient labor, can share in the blessings the New World offers to all who really desire to profit by its opportunities. We know this from the records of the Institution. But these advantages are abandoned if we attempt to build up a great asylum in this half European city, in the very rush of the crowds of immigrants that land on our wharves, seeking for work of any sort and at any price. The blind man, either individually, or collectively in a manufacturing establishment, will be beaten down in the competition; and all attempts will inevitably prove failures, as every year's experience from the commencement of the experiment has proved.

In this connection, it is recommended that blind men over the legal age of admission as pupils, and not heretofore inmates of the Institution, receive support for one year at the expense of the State, and tuition in the more available handicrafts. It would not be necessary to domesticate them with our young children, for the association of the latter with men whose habits are formed would not be for the best; while the restraints of academical life for the former would be irksome. A donation, on the close of their term of appointment is, in all cases, recommended as a wise and kind policy.

Respectfully submitted,

T. COLDEN COOPER.

# Report of the Attending Physician.

---

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE  
NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

Gentlemen—I would respectfully Report, that the condition of health in the Institution, throughout the year, has been good. The class of diseases that have prevailed, present nothing peculiar, nor much varied from the experience of former years. Five pupils have died within the past year,—one from epileptic fits, to which he had been subject for years, two from tubercular ulceration of the bowels, and two from latent disease of the lungs; one of the latter, following a very severe and protracted attack of whooping cough.

The alterations in the building have tended to promote the comfort and health of the inmates, and in none has the change been more marked than in the location of the sick room. Quiet, well ventilated, and isolated; yet they are very accessible for the pupils, at all times. The progressive increase in the number of pupils, and these generally more youthful, calls for increased attention to systematic exercise, and greater facilities for frequent bathing.

Yours, Respectfully,  
J. W. G. CLEMENTS, M.D.

New York, Jan. 1, 1858.

# Legacies & Donations received during the year 1857.

---

## LEGACY.

Mrs. De Witt Clinton, per Edward De Witt, executor, . . . . . \$200 00

## DONATIONS.

Robert J. Murray (particulars not given), . . . . .	\$500 00
Wheeler & Wilson, half-price of Sewing Machine, . . . . .	50 00
R. Suckly, per William Dumont, . . . . .	20 00
Chas. Tappan, per Wm. Curtis Noyes, . . . . .	50 00
Mrs. Alex. Brown, per Geo. F. Allen, . . . . .	15 00
Dr. J. G. Adams, annual subscription, . . . . .	10 00
Edward Wood, " " . . . . .	10 00
James Warren, " " . . . . .	10 00
Wm. M. Abbatt, " " . . . . .	5 00
Wm. Dumont, " " . . . . .	5 00
Geo. F. Jones, " " . . . . .	5 00
Robert Gracie, " " . . . . .	5 00
James Warren, " " . . . . .	5 00
Jno. P. Crosby, " " . . . . .	5 00
J. G. Adams, " " . . . . .	5 00
A. W. Craven, " " . . . . .	20 00
Total, . . . . .	\$920 00

SILAS BROWN,  
*Treasurer.*

## SUNDRY DONATIONS.

Courier and Inquirer, half subscription, . . . . .	\$5 00
Commercial Advertiser, " . . . . .	5 00
Evening Post, " . . . . .	5 00
New York Daily Tribune, " . . . . .	3 00
" Evangelist, gratis, . . . . .	2 50
" Recorder, " . . . . .	2 50
" Churchman, " . . . . .	2 50
Albany Semi-Weekly Argus, gratis, . . . . .	4 00
New York Musical Review, . . . . .	1 00

---

## List of Articles

MADE IN THE SEWING-ROOM BY THE FEMALE PUPILS DURING THE  
YEAR 1857.

135 Sheets,	16 Table Cloths,
273 Towels,	62 Pair of Drawers,
55 Pillow Cases,	51 Night Gowns,
85 Bed Sacks,	257 Napkins,
165 Handkerchiefs,	43 Night Caps,
99 Shirts,	84 Chemises,
70 Skirts,	72 Flannels.
44 Aprons,	

## Terms of Admission.

---

Pupils are received at the charge of the State of New York, when their parents are unable to meet the cost of board and tuition. A certificate to this effect should be obtained from the Overseers of the Poor of the town where the pupil resides, in the following form :

COUNTY, }  
NEW YORK, 185 }  
We the undersigned, Overseers of the Poor in the Town of ,  
County of , State of New York, do certify that ,  
of said Town, is blind. He was years old on the day of last ;  
his moral character is good ; he is free from all diseases other than those of the eyes ; his blindness is permanent, and his faculties other than those of sight, are good.

The name of his father (nearest relative or guardian) is ,  
and the said is not of sufficient pecuniary ability to pay either  
for the board, tuition, or clothing of the said , as a pupil of the  
New York Institution for the Blind.

} Overseers of  
} the Poor.

A small charge (\$20) is collected from the County for clothing, unless it can be provided by the friends of the applicant, in which case it should be so stated in the certificate.

The certificate is to be forwarded to Albany, to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, from whom the appointment will proceed.

Applications for admission as State pupils, from New York or New Jersey, must be between the ages of twelve and twenty-five years.

Pay pupils may be received younger or older, by consent of the Board of Managers.

The charge for pay pupils, exclusive of clothing is \$180 a year, to be paid quarterly in advance.

Each pay pupil must, on entering the Institution, be supplied by his friends with a suitable bed, pillow, two pairs of sheets, three blankets, a counterpane, and four towels.

Beneficiaries from the State of New Jersey are admitted on the order of the Governor, based upon the certificate of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the county where the pupil resides.

The Managers of the Institution would respectfully but earnestly call the attention of the officers to whom application is made for certificates of admission, to that part of the certificate relating to the moral character and mental capacity of the candidate. The reasons why none whose moral characters are not good should be placed in an Institution like this, are too obvious to require comment ; and as the Institution is a place of education, and not an asylum, none should be placed in it who are incapacitated, either physically or mentally, from receiving instruction.

### Form of a Request to the New York Institution for the Blind.

I bequeath to my executors the sum of dollars, in trust, to the person who, when the same shall be payable, shall act as Treasurer to the New York Institution for the Blind, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of the said Institution, and under its direction.





THIRTY-FIRST

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANAGERS

OF THE

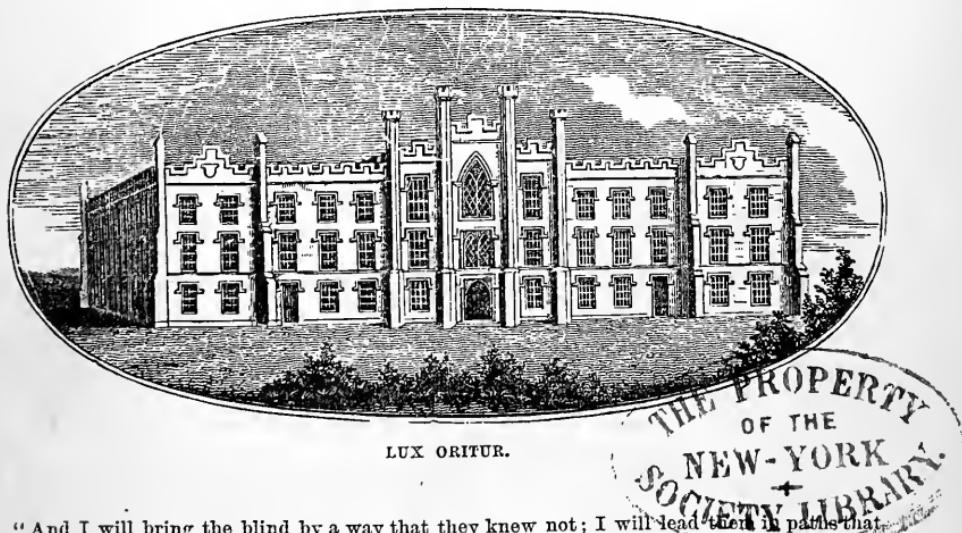
NEW-YORK

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE,

For the Year 1866.



"And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known; I will make darkness light before them." —ISAIAH 42:16.

---

NEW-YORK:

GEORGE F. NESBITT & CO., PRINTERS AND STATIONERS,  
Corner of Pearl and Pine Streets.

---

1867.



## Board of Managers.

---

AUGUSTUS SCHELL,  
ROBERT S. HONE,  
WALDO HUTCHINS,  
CHARLES K. TUCKERMAN,  
DANIEL H. TOMPKINS,  
D. LYDIG SUYDAM,  
NATHANIEL P. HOSACK,  
JOSEPH GRAFTON,  
THEO. BAILEY MYERS,  
JOHN TREAT IRVING,  
CLARKSON N. POTTER,  
JAMES M. McLEAN,  
SMITH CLIFT,  
CHARLES B. HOFFMAN,  
WILLIAM WHITEWRIGHT, JR.,  
THOMAS ADDIS EMMET, M. D.,  
WILLIAM C. SCHERMERHORN,  
CHARLES DÉ RHAM,  
HENRY HILTON,  
JOHN E. BURRILL, JR.

## Officers of the Board.

---

AUGUSTUS SCHELL,	<i>President.</i>
ROBERT S. HONE,	<i>Vice-President.</i>
T. BAILEY MYERS,	<i>Recording Secretary.</i>
CHARLES K. TUCKERMAN,	<i>Corresponding Secretary.</i>
JOSEPH GRAFTON,	<i>Treasurer.</i>

---

## Standing Committees, FOR 1867.

---

### *Committee on Finance.*

DANIEL H. TOMPKINS,	JAMES M. MCLEAN,
	HENRY HILTON.

---

### *Committee on Supplies, Repairs and Improvements.*

WALDO HUTCHINS,	NATHANIEL P. HOSACK,
CLARKSON N. POTTER,	CHARLES B. HOFFMAN,
	CHARLES DÉ RHAM.

---

### *Committee on Instruction and Music.*

CHARLES K. TUCKERMAN,	JOHN TREAT IRVING,
THOS. ADDIS EMMET, M. D.,	WILLIAM C. SCHERMERHORN.

---

### *Committee on Manufactures.*

D. LYDIG SUYDAM,	SMITH CLIFT,
Wm. WHITEWRIGHT, Jr.,	JOHN E. BURRILL, Jr.

---

The President shall be *ex-officio* member of all standing committees.

The Vice-President and Treasurer shall be *ex-officio* members of the Committee on Finance. (*By-Laws.*)

## Officers of the Institution.

---

WILLIAM B. WAIT, - - - - *Superintendent.*

JAMES W. G. CLEMENTS, M. D., *Attending Physician.*

EDWARD L. BEADLE, M. D., *Consulting Physician.*

*Consulting Surgeons.*

ABRAHAM DUBoIS, M. D., JOHN H. HINTON, M. D.

---

### *Teachers in the Academical Department.*

STEPHEN BABCOCK, Miss MATILDA M. HUTCHINS,

CHARLES S. PEPPER, Miss MARY KNOWLES,

Miss EMMA I. DAY, Miss ANN COX,

MISS H. A. VAN PATTEN.

---

### *Teachers in the Musical Department.*

THEODORE THOMAS, *Director.*

FRED'K HENSSLER, - - - *Professor of Vocal Music.*

CHARLES A. FOEPPEL, - - - *Professor of Instrumental Music.*

Miss H. AMELIA WRIGHT, *Piano.*

Miss CATHARINE CONNELL, "

Miss LOUISA HAMMOND, "

---

### *Teachers in the Mechanical Department.*

HUGH F. DARRAGH, - *Foreman in the Mat and Broom Shop.*

WARREN WATERBURY, *Foreman in the Mattress Shop.*

Miss ANNA SHERIDAN, *Upholstress.*

*Sewing Department.*

(Under the Direction of Assistant Matron.)

Miss RACHEL A. BISHOP, - - - - - *Teacher.*

---

*In charge of the Door Register and Passes.*

Miss FANNY E. WHEELER.

---

*Guides.*

Miss ALICE HATCHMAN,

Miss HANNAH RODNEY.

---

*House Department.*J. EDGAR AMBLER, *Steward*\*.*Matron.**Assistant Matron.*

Mrs. MARY A. HAYES.

Miss G. J. HARDENBURGH.

---

*Hospital Nurse.*Miss E. M. CLEALAN and an *ASSISTANT.**Boys' Nurse.**Girls' Nurse.*

Miss ELIZA MAHONY.

Miss RACHEL BISHOP.

---

\* Mr. AMBLER is also Agent of the Manufacturing Department.

## REPORT

*To the Honorable, the Legislature of the State of New-York*

In compliance with an Act of the Legislature, passed April 1, 1836, the Managers of the New-York Institution for the Blind herewith make a full Report of their proceedings, under oath, and of the disposition of the moneys paid to them from the Treasury of the State for the year ending 31st December, 1866.

The detail of the various departments of this Institution will be found in the Report of the Superintendent, herewith annexed, by which it will be perceived that the progress of the pupils in the usual literary, musical and mechanical pursuits has been equal to that of previous years, and that the efforts of the management to maintain the high character of the Institution in point of public usefulness have not been unsuccessful.

The Annual Report of the Physician, also submitted, exhibits the sanitary condition of the pupils.

The Treasurer's Report shows the receipts and expenditures of the fiscal year.

The debt of the Institution on the 1st day of January, 1866, was....	\$130,868 26
Consisting of a mortgage debt of.....,.....	\$106,500 00
And the deficiency for the year 1865.....	24,368 26

Being a total indebtedness, January 1, 1866, of..... \$130,868 26

This deficiency of \$24,368.26 was in part provided for by the appropriation made by your Honorable Body during the session of the Legislature for the year 1866, amounting to \$22,414.66.

The Board of Managers, during the last year, have disposed of a portion of their real estate not required for the immediate use of the Institution.

The proceeds of this sale have been applied to the reduction of their mortgage debt, so that at present it stands as follows:

Mortgage Debt, January 1, 1866.....	\$106,500 00
Paid during the year ending December 31, 1866.....	67,000 00
Leaving still unpaid.....	\$39,500 00

To meet which the Institution now holds mortgages on the real estate sold by them for part of the purchase money, to the amount of \$40,000, payable in the months of February and March next. When these amounts are paid they will liquidate the entire mortgage debt of the Institution.

The Institution has had under its charge, for the past year, the average number of.....	124 <sup>73</sup> <sub>10</sub> pupils.
Of this number there were appointed by the State.....	112 "
By the State of New Jersey.....	9.31 "
Pay Pupils.....	3.42 "

The proportion of expense of the State pupils is as follows:

For the maintenance and education for 1866, of 112 State Pupils	\$35,000 12
Proportion of loss in Manufacturing Department.....	516 20
Expense for clothing same.....	5,115 04
	_____
	\$40,631 36

Amount received from the State for 112 Pupils....	\$33,599 30
Received from Counties for Clothing.....	3,630 00
	_____
	\$37,229 30

Showing a deficiency of.....\$3,402 06

The Managers, in the effort to discharge the debts of the Institution and to relieve it from embarrassment, have exercised the greatest economy in the use of the moneys appropriated by the State.

They were required during the past year to pay the sum of \$8,753.14 on account of taxes and assessments which had, from time to time, for some years past, been assessed on their property.

In addition to this there is unpaid thereon for taxes and assessments, with the interest, about the sum of \$5,814.31.

The Board of Managers had declined to pay these taxes and assessments for the reason that they claimed to be exempted from taxation as a benevolent Institution, and have petitioned the proper authorities from time to time, for relief from the same. Finding relief could not be had, they have, under the advice of counsel, paid off a portion of the same as above stated, and they respectfully ask that an appropriation be made by your Honorable Body, to the amount of \$14,567.45, to reimburse the amount paid, and to enable them to meet the balance of the taxes and assessments.

The following statement shows the particulars of the expenses of the Institution for the maintenance and education of 124<sup>73</sup><sub>100</sub> pupils for the year 1866:

Supplies.....	\$22,143 22
Gas.....	970 96
Croton Water.....	73 00
Traveling.....	473 51
Music.....	239 40
Legal Expenses.....	16 00
Insurance.....	236 50
Furniture and Fixtures.....	1,463 75
Petty Expenses.....	1,886 77
Tax for year 1866, Mt. Hope Farm.....	816 50
Salaries and Wages.....	10,746 00
Loss on Manufacturing Department .....	586 38
	_____
	\$39,651 99

In addition, there has been paid by the Institution

Interest.....	\$6,339 66
Repairs and Improvements.....	1,471 96
Back Taxes and Assessments.....	8,753 14
	_____
	\$16,564 76

Total expenses for 1866.....\$56,216 75

The Legislature, at its last session, made the allowance, \$300, for each State pupil, which sum the Board of Managers are of opinion

will be sufficient, with the interest on their permanent fund, to defray the expense of the support and education of such pupils as may be appointed to the Institution by the State. The large interest account being extinguished by the payment of the mortgage debt, should the amount of taxes and assessments, paid and unpaid, be met by an appropriation from your Honorable Body, the Institution will be entirely relieved from debt and its entire resources will be devoted to the important philanthropic purpose for which it was formed.

The Legacy and Donation Fund, which, under the direction of the Board, has been invested in the funds of the United States, consists of the following:

Frissell Fund.....	\$2,000 00
William E. Saunders.....	725 84
Thomas Eddy.....	1,000 00
Anson G. Phelps.....	480 50
S. V. Sickles.....	2,125 00
Robert Goodhue.....	1,000 00
From sale of Real Estate.....	3,668 66
	_____
	\$11,000 00

The donation of Messrs. Rose of \$5,000, made in 1864, and the legacy of Mr. Albro, in 1865, of \$428.57, and an additional sum on legacy of S. V. Sickles, of \$259.90, in that year, making in all \$5,688.47, are, with the legacy of John Penfold, received in the year 1866, still used for the current purposes of the Institution, but the same will be added with the mortgages, as early as practicable, to the permanent fund of the Institution.

#### CHARACTER OF THE INSTITUTION.

The establishment, by the State Legislature during the past year, of an Asylum at a remote distance from this city, for indigent blind adults may be regarded, apart from its beneficent provisions, as an advantage to our Institution, inasmuch as it will relieve us from the application for aid from a large class of unfortunates for which the New-York Institution for the Blind was

never intended. Although your Honorable Body well understand the purposes of this peculiar charity, much misapprehension prevails at large upon the subject, which it may not be improper in this place to rectify. Ours is not an "Asylum" for the helpless and infirm, whose age or physical incapacity require simple protection and bodily comfort, but an Educational Institution for the reception and intellectual culture of male and female pupils between the ages of eight and twenty-five, who, although deprived of the blessing of sight, possess those natural abilities which, if cultivated, will compensate in large measure for their sad deprivation, and prepare them for self support and a fair degree of hopeful independence when they shall have concluded their terms of membership and go forth into the world. Hence the system of education adopted is of the utmost importance. Equally important is it that the infirm in body and weak in intellect should not become inmates of this Institution, to divert from their proper channels the time and attention of the Superintendent and Instructors who have in charge the moral, intellectual, and physical training of those whose natural abilities should encourage and reward such efforts. It will be equally manifest that the introduction of very young children or of adults into the society of youth of both sexes would be prejudicial to the interests of the latter. We, therefore, urge upon the attention of all those who have in charge the afflicted of this class, the importance of making themselves acquainted with the nature of this Institution and of complying with the terms of admission as set forth on one of the pages of this pamphlet.

#### THE CONDITION OF THE BLIND.

To excite a feeling of interest and enlist the sympathies of the outside world, it is necessary that the condition of the blind should be known. Many people suppose that by closing their own eyes they realize the position of those who are bereft of sight. They do not comprehend the perplexities, the weariness, the isolation of those to whom the light of day and perception of matter

are forever shut out. There are two classes of the blind: those who have become so from disease or accident, after having once been in the enjoyment of vision; and those who have been born blind. It may be questioned which of these two conditions is the most miserable. The former have their *remembrance* of light, color, and form, to guide them through their present darkness; but this very knowledge of the lost blessing may make more poignant its deprivation. The other class have no memory to sustain or experience to guide, but grope in utter oblivion, helpless and hopeless, but for the intelligence conveyed through the other senses.

To rescue these unfortunate fellow-beings from a life of worse than uselessness and despondency, and to cultivate their moral and mental faculties to a standard of intelligence to which their claims, as members of the human family, entitle them, is the object of this Institution.

#### DUTIES OF THE MANAGERS.

The Managers are not insensible to the responsibilities which devolve upon them in their relations to this charity, and it is believed that their self-imposed task is performed with fidelity. Their services are given gratuitously. This fact is alluded to here to correct any misapprehension which may exist on the subject. It may also be proper to say that, so far from this voluntary benevolence on their part having the effect to relax their exertions or make irregular the performance of their duties, the labor performed by the Managers is systematic and thorough. The Board is divided into separate Committees, each of which has exclusive and personal control over a particular department. Besides the regular monthly meeting and special meetings of the full Board, the Committees have frequent meetings to discharge the duties assigned to them.

That the noble purposes of this Institution and the system adopted to carry them out may be thoroughly understood, the Managers respectfully invite the Members of your Honorable

Body and the public at large to visit the Institution and personally inspect its operations. A regular visiting day is appointed for this purpose, as well as to permit the relatives and friends of the pupils to visit them.

AUGUSTUS SCHELL,  
*President of the New-York Institution for the Blind.*

T. BAILEY MYERS, *Secretary.*

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK, *ss.:*

Augustus Schell, of said city, being duly sworn, saith that he is the President of the New-York Institution for the Blind, and that the above Report signed by him is true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

AUGUSTUS SCHELL.

Sworn to before me this }  
8th day of Feb., 1867. }

G. R. HART,  
*Notary Public,*  
*New-York City and County.*

**Dr.** The New-York Institution for the Blind in Account with Joseph Grafton, Treasurer. Cr.

NEW-YORK, December 31, 1866.  
T

ember 31, 1866.  
Examined and found correct, January 21, 1867.

JOSEPH GRAFTON, *Treasurer.*

found correct, January 21, 1867.  
W. W. WHITEMEYER, JR.,  
W. C. SCHERMERHORN,  
J. M. MCLEAN,  
Auditing Committee.

NEW-YORK, *January 21, 1867.*

*To the Board of Managers of the New-York Institution for the Blind.*

GENTLEMEN,—Your medical attendant presents the following Report for the year ending the 31st of December, 1866 :

The pupils have enjoyed the most remarkable health for the past year. No serious sickness has prevailed. The result is not attributable to chance—for, at one time, from the succession of seven grave cases, different results might have eventuated but for the prompt and efficient co-operation of the Superintendent in sanitary matters. Thus an epidemic was clearly avoided. It is the source of great satisfaction to be able to state that the cause did not originate in the house.

There have been two deaths: one from typhoid pneumonia, a boy, sick only three (3) days, who was past recovery when he entered the hospital; the other from apoplexy, a girl, who was seized after retiring for the night, and died almost instantly. She had been subject to occasional convulsions for years.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. G. CLEMENTS, M. D.,  
*Attending Physician.*



## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

---

*To the Board of Managers.*

GENTLEMEN,—At the close of the year 1865, the number of pupils in the Institution was.....	124
Received during the year 1866.....	31

---

Total number instructed during the year.....	155
Left by graduation, expiration of term of pupilage and otherwise.....	31

---

Number in the Institution December 31, 1866.....	124
Males.....	61
Females.....	63— 124

---

Two deaths have occurred during the year, but, in general, the school has enjoyed immunity from sickness. The few cases of serious sickness have yielded under the skilful treatment of the attending physician, Dr. J. W. G. Clements. All the means by which a good sanitary condition is promoted, such as exercise, employment, amusement, substantial food and frequent bathing, find their appropriate places; while, in case of sickness, the most skilful treatment and most attentive nursing are employed to restore the patient to health. While we regret that any have been removed by death, our acknowledgments are due to the Giver of all Good that so many have been spared in the enjoyment of so great a degree of health and strength.

During the year the usual branches of instruction in the three departments have been carried on.

## LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

The following course of study, through which each pupil must progress from year to year, shows the nature of the work undertaken in this department :

### PRIMAR Y.

#### FIRST TERM.

Spelling—Parker & Watson's—20 words per day, with sounds of the letters, dictation and composition exercises, to page 33.  
 Reading,  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's Primary, to page 38.  
 Number—3 steps, with objects.  
 Size—4 steps, with objects.  
 Moral Lessons—Cowdery.

#### SECOND TERM.

Spelling, as before, to page 58.  
 Reading.  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's Primary, completed and Reviewed  
 Number—through 6 steps, with objects.  
 Form, Weight and Place. Object Lessons.  
 Moral Lessons—Cowdery.

### INTERMEDIATE.

#### FIRST TERM.

Spelling—to page 73.  
 Reading.  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's Rudiments, to page 34  
 Geography—National Series, No. 1, completed.  
 History of England.  
 Moral and Object Lessons.

#### SECOND TERM.

Spelling—to page 98.  
 Reading,  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's Rudiments, to page 59  
 Geography—Review, with maps.  
 History of England.  
 Moral and Object Lessons.

### SUB - JUNIOR.

#### FIRST TERM.

Reading.  
 Spelling—to page 113.  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's Rudiments, to page 111.  
 Geography—National Series, No. 2.  
 American History—Goodrich's.  
 Moral and Object Lessons, including human body and animals.

#### SECOND TERM.

Reading.  
 Spelling—to page 138.  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's completed and reviewed.  
 Geography—National Series, No. 2, reviewed, with maps.  
 History—Goodrich's, completed & reviewed.  
 Object and Moral Lessons.

## J U N I O R.

## F I R S T T E R M.

Writing.  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's Intellectual, to page 114.  
 Spelling, completed.  
 Geography—National Series, No. 3.  
 Grammar—Clark's First, to page 73.  
 History—Worcester's Ancient.

## S E C O N D T E R M.

Writing.  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's Intellectual, completed and reviewed.  
 Spelling and Analysis.  
 Geography—National Series, No. 3, reviewed with maps.  
 Grammar—Clark's First, completed and reviewed.  
 History—Worcester's Ancient, and Modern France.

## S U B - S E N I O R.

## F I R S T T E R M.

Arithmetic—Stoddard's Practical, to page 164.  
 Grammar—Brown's, to page 124, with Clark's.  
 History—Worcester's England.  
 Physiology and Hygiene—Jarvis and Beecher's.  
 Algebra—Davies' Elementary, to page 72.  
 Geography—National Series, No. 4, with Tangible Chirography.

## S E C O N D T E R M.

Arithmetic—Stoddard's Practical, completed and reviewed.  
 Grammar—Brown's to page 241.  
 History—Worcester's English and American.  
 Physiology and Hygiene.  
 Algebra—Davies' Elementary, to page 173.  
 Geography—National Series, No. 4, with maps.

## S E N I O R — F I R S T Y E A R.

## F I R S T T E R M.

Algebra—Davies' Elementary, to page 217.  
 Geometry—Davies' Legendre, Book First.  
 Logic—Davies'.  
 Natural Philosophy—Gray's, to page 60.  
 Science of Government—Young's, to page 100.  
 Mental Philosophy—Wayland's, 10 chapters.

## S E C O N D T E R M.

Algebra—Davies' Elementary, completed and reviewed.  
 Geometry—Davies' Legendre, Second and Third Books.  
 Geology—St. John's.  
 Natural Philosophy—Gray's, to page 119.  
 Science of Government—Young's, completed and reviewed.  
 Mental Philosophy—Wayland's, completed.

## S E N I O R — S E C O N D Y E A R.

## F I R S T T E R M.

Natural Philosophy—Gray's to page 119.  
 Geometry—Davies', Books First, Second and Third, reviewed, and Fourth Book.  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's University.  
 Chemistry—Silliman's.  
 Moral Philosophy—Wayland's, to page 88, with general review.

## S E C O N D T E R M.

Natural Philosophy—Gray's, completed.  
 Geometry—Davies' Legendre, Fifth and Sixth Books, with review.  
 Arithmetic—Stoddard's University.  
 Chemistry—Silliman's.  
 Moral Philosophy—Wayland's, to page 188, with general review.

## MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

The number of pupils instructed in music, during the past year, is as follows:

On Piano,.....	74
On Organ,.....	3
In Vocalization,.....	11
“ Elementary Class,.....	35
“ Chorus Singing,.....	47

There are three objects connected with this department very difficult to secure.

The first is a comprehensive school of instruction, which is systematic and progressive, and adapted to *all* the pupils at all stages of advancement, through a seven years' course of study. Such a school or system must have regard to instruction in the rudiments, chorus singing, the voice, the piano, harmony and the organ. All of these subjects, as specialities, must be progressive, and as parts of the whole, must have their proper place and scope, each being presented at the proper time and without undue prominence. The second object is to secure such an organization of the pupils as shall admit of the most complete and thorough application of the school or course of musical study. In other words, to secure a proper classification and grading of the pupils.

The third part is to have such a *mode* or *manner of application* as will be in harmony with the School of Study, consistent with the plan of organization, and adapted to the condition of the pupils as being blind, and which will develop, in just proportions, both a theoretical and practical knowledge of music. It is to secure the full accomplishment of these objects that the efforts of the Director of Music, Mr. Theodore Thomas, have been directed, and with results which indicate complete success. This work demands the qualities of the theorist, the organizer and the practical instructor. And not only this, but there is also required a knowledge of the blind as differing from the seeing, a knowledge

of the individual pupils, and a clear understanding of the organization of the Institution, in other departments so as to insure adaptability and harmony in all the arrangements. This work requires a long time for its accomplishment. In regard to the organization of the pupils in classes, as also to the mode and order of teaching, much progress has been made, and the results have been gratifying. The lack of a system or course of musical study in text-book form, has been supplied by the best compilations it has been possible to make. It is hoped, however, that we shall soon have a standard work, which—with such small additions as may be necessary—will supply this most pressing want. When this is done, corrections in organization and in the mode of teaching, may be made, and the whole department of music put in the most efficient working order. Some time will then be required to produce the results hoped for. These results will not be found so much in brilliant performances as in a well-grounded practical training of all who study music, by which they may be *useful* in life.

---

#### INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

The following statement shows the nature and amount of work done during the year:

Manufacturing Department in account with The New-York Institution for the Blird, for the  
year ending December 31, 1866.

Dr.

Cr.

	22
To Value of Raw Material and Manufactured Stock on hand January 1, 1866 .....	\$1,056 89
" Value of Fixtures.....	935 00
" Raw Material bought in 1866,.....	4,780 46
" Balance .....	1,226 22
	<u>      \$8,018 57</u>
By Sales of Mats.....	\$131 30
" " Mattresses.....	1,480 89
" " Brooms .....	3,913 77
" Bills Receivable.....	449 46
" Value of Raw Material and Manufactured Stock on hand December 31, 1866.....	1,108 15
" Value of Fixtures .....	935 00
	<u>      \$8,018 57</u>
" Profit on Work.....	1,226 22
" Balance.....	586 38
" Salaries and Wages.....	<u>      \$1,812 60</u>
	<u>      \$1,812 60</u>

There are many pupils to whom this department presents the only hope of employment. Consequently, it has special value to them, which should incite to the utmost diligence and persevering effort. In a work department, in which all are learners, some loss is almost inevitable.' In some institutions a balance is shown in favor of the work department at the close of the year. This is generally done by charging some or all of the salaries paid for instruction or oversight to the general instruction account of the Institution, to which salaries in the musical and literary departments are charged. By this course a balance in favor of our work department could be shown from year to year. This, however, is not done; all the expense incurred being charged to the department as an offset to rent, interest on capital, and other items of outlay required in carrying on the business. With so many young workers, most of them blind from early age, and being occupied, a large share of the time, in the other departments, we are not in the best position to show a favorable balance of accounts. Still the nearer we can come to doing this, the better the prospect and assurance that the pupils will succeed, when in mature years they devote all their time and energy to their mechanical pursuits.

The object of the Institution, through these means of instruction, is, to so improve the condition of the young blind by education, that they may take a useful and respectable standing in society. But it is very easy, in dealing with a class whose acquisitions in any direction are invested with mystery and wonder by the general mind, to be diverted from the true purpose, and to give to particular branches and pupils a monopoly of attention; thus securing some *striking features* for the mere sake of notoriety.

Whether it is consistent with the true end had in view, whether for the sake of the temporary *eclat*, which such results may bring, it is best for an Institution to expend so much time and labor in special directions, to the neglect of other less showy, though it may be more practical branches, and other less attractive pupils, does not admit of a doubt.

The true way is to pay sufficient attention to all. But as between the naturally proficient and attractive pupil and one who is dull and uninteresting, the latter needs, and should have, the most attention and encouragement. The true exponent of our work will not be found in the acquisitions of a notable few, but in the business, social and moral character of the many whom we instruct. We cannot exercise an absolute influence in any of these regards, but we can exert a beneficial influence which shall be felt, in a greater or less degree, by all. And thus, while some who enjoy its advantages may not enter upon active duties in life, yet there will be none who will not, by the foretaste of knowledge here given, be better prepared to enjoy life and the society of friends, better to understand their duties and responsibilities as accountable beings, and who will not look forward, with a clearer mental vision, to that life which all may obtain, through faith in the Redeemer of men.

### EXPENSES.

The amount expended by the Institution for the year ending December 31, 1866, was as follows, viz. :

Supplies on hand January 1, 1866,.....	\$ 772 17
Cost of Supplies bought during the year ending Dec. 31, 1866, .....	22,518 13
	<hr/>
	\$23,290 30
Amount on hand Dec. 31, 1866,.....	1,147 08
	<hr/>
Total amount for Supplies for year ending Dec. 31, 1866,.....	\$22,143 22
Gas,.....	970 96
Croton Water,.....	73 00
Traveling,.....	473 51
Music,.....	239 40
Legal Expenses,.....	16 00
Insurance,.....	236 50
Furniture and Fixtures,.....	1,463 75
Repairs and Alterations,.....	1,471 96
Interest,.....	6,339 66
Petty Account,.....	1,886 77
Taxes and Assessments,.....	8,753 14
Salaries and Wages, viz. :—Employees.....	\$4,166 29
Literary Teachers,.....	1,908 43
Music,.....	1,758 00
Servants,.....	2,913 28
	<hr/>
Loss on the Manufacturing Department,.....	\$10,746 00
Taxes for year 1866, Mount Hope Farm.....	586 38
	<hr/>
	\$56,216 75

I submit below a few remarks on the number, ages and condition of the blind, and also on the subject of alphabets and printing for the blind, with some statistics relating thereto, and also some statistics showing the causes of blindness in 844 cases, with ages, nativities and cases occurring among relatives.

### NUMBER, CLASSES AND CONDITION OF THE BLIND IN THE STATE.

According to the New-York State Census of 1865, the whole number of blind persons in the State is 1,338. That this is far below the actual number, all who are acquainted with the subject will agree. A little study of census reports will substantiate this view.

According to the United States census of 1860, the whole number of blind persons in the United States was 12,631. The proportion of blind to the whole population being 1 : 2.449. Applying this proportion to the population of New-York in 1860, which, according to the United States census, was 3,880,735, and we have 1,553 as the number of blind persons in the State in 1860. But the number actually returned by the same census in this State in 1860, was 1,768, or 1 in every 2,195 of the population, which shows the ratio of blindness to be greater in New-York than in the other States of the Union taken together.

According to the State census of 1865, the whole number of blind persons in the State is only 1,338, and the whole population 3,831,751. Now, if we apply the same ratio of blind to the whole population which was found to exist in 1860, we have  $2,195 : 1 :: 3,831,751 : x$ , which gives 1,745 as the number of blind in the State, or 407 more than are returned by the census. But there are good reasons for supposing that there are many more than, 1,745 blind persons in this State.\*

---

\* NOTE.—The United States census of 1860 gives the number of blind to the whole population in New-York as being 1 to every 2.199, which is slightly in error. Thus, 1,768 blind in a population of 3,880,735, gives 1 blind person to every 2,195.

The following table shows the increase of population in the State in periods of five years since 1840, with the ratio of increase:

1840.....	Population,	2,428,921		
1845.....	"	2,604,495.....	Gain, 7.22 per cent.	"
1850.....	"	3,097,394.....	" 18.92 "	"
1855.....	"	3,466,118.....	" 11.90 "	"
1860.....	"	3,880,735.....	" 11.96 "	"
1865.....	"	3,831,751.....	Loss, 1.26 "	"

Average gain for each period of five years, from 1840 to 1860,....12 50 per cent.

Loss from 1860 to 1865, according to the State Census,..... 1.26 "

That the causes which operate to promote the growth of any State have not only failed to produce an increase in this State, but have been inadequate to maintain it in the position it held in 1860 seems incredible. The State has not been filled up, so far as its agricultural resources are concerned, while its manufacturing and commercial advantages invite both the capitalist and the artisan to invest money and labor here. Neither immigration nor any other of the usual conditions of increase have been suspended or even checked. The war has been the only extraordinary cause of mortality, and even this, with all its destructive and adverse conditions, can have availed but little in neutralizing the many causes of growth which have operated without cessation and produced such great results in the last quarter of a century. And hence, with all the known conditions of growth in continued operation, and while no condition which can suspend or diminish such growth has been introduced, we must conclude that the average augmentation of 12.50 per cent. from 1840 to 1860, in periods of five years each, indicates a like amount of increase during the five years ending with 1865. It may be remarked here that while the war has had no sensible effect in reducing the population, it has operated to produce a very marked increase in the number of blind, and hence increasing the ratio of the blind to the whole population. For the purpose, however, of approximating to the actual number of blind in the State, we will

take it for granted that the increase in population from 1860 to 1865 was the same as the average increase for each period of five years from 1840 to 1860, to wit, 12.50 per cent., discarding the fact above mentioned, inasmuch as the increase in the ratio of blindness caused by the casualties of war has not been determined. The population in 1860 was 3,880,735, and an increase of 12.50 per cent. upon this base gives a gain of 485,087, and a total population of 4,365,822 in 1865. Of this number, one in every 2,195 is blind, and hence we have  $2,195 : 1 :: 4,365,822 : x$ , from which we find the whole number of blind in the State at present to be 1,989. But again the probable inaccuracy of the census of 1865 may be shown in the marked difference between the decrease in the whole population and the decrease of the blind since 1860:

Population, 1860,.....	3,880,735
" 1865,.....	3,831,751
Loss,.....	48,984, or 1.26 per cent.
Number of Blind, 1860,.....	1,768
" " 1865,.....	1,338
Loss,.....	430, or 24.32 per cent.

If it were granted as a fact that the State has decreased 1.26 per cent. in population since 1860, it is impossible to conceive how the number of blind could have diminished 24.32 per cent. during the same time, inasmuch as there has been no unusual cause of mortality among this class, and no emigration to other parts, while, on the contrary, new causes of blindness have been introduced, and many influences operating to draw the blind from other States into this, and particularly to New-York city. Moreover, it has been the opinion of those well acquainted with this subject that the number of blind has always been underrated by the statistics, and I coincide in this view so far as New-York is concerned. Hence, in making a classification, the number of blind in this State will be set down at 2,000.

---

NOTE.—William C Chapin, Esq., Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Blind, who has devoted much attention to this subject, estimates the number of blind in this State at about 2,270.

## DIVISION OF BLIND ACCORDING TO AGE.

Under 10 years of age,.....	140	or 7 per cent.
Between 10 and 20 years of age,.....	260	" 13 "
" 20 " 40 " " .....	420	" 21 "
" 40 " 60 " " .....	460	" 23 "
Above 60 years of age,.....	720	" 36 "
Total, .....	<u>2,000</u>	" 100 "

This table is invested with great interest as indicating the classes into which the blind may be arranged with reference to the amelioration of their condition, by the application of means adapted to meet the wants of each class. A noticeable fact in this connection, which is shown by the above table, is that 1,600, or 80 per cent., of the blind of this State are adults.

Most of them in their years of sight have gained such knowledge, experience and physical development as would enable them to earn their own living if the means and ways of so doing which are adapted to the blind were furnished them.

## THE INDIGENT BLIND.

By this term is here designated those who are in the poor-houses of the State.

There is no class of our fellow beings whose misfortune is greater, whose hardships are more severe, whose trials in body and mind are more afflicting, or whose condition is more cheerless, friendless, or hopeless than that of the Indigent Blind. Their condition is one over which they have no control. They are neither idlers nor paupers by any act or desire of their own ; they would work if they could but they cannot if they would.

Stricken, it may be at the meridian of life, with blindness, ill health, and broken spirits ; loss of means and loss of friends have waited on their misfortune. They are as literally in close confinement as is the convict. The wave of travel and the tide of trade sweep by both alike. But alike, neither have any part or lot in the pleasure or the gain. They have no amusement, no employment ; they hear no reading, receive no instruction. The world

is shut out from them, and they are shut up in it. Their heads pillow in poverty and they walk in a dark and hopeless way. They are as much to be commisserated as the insane poor, and more than the inebriates, whose condition is the result of their own folly.

The following table shows the number of this class so needy and worthy of relief in some of the county poor-houses. In connection with the preceding table it shows in the strongest light the necessity for giving instruction and assistance to the adult and indigent blind of the State:—

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BLIND IN COUNTY HOUSES.

Albany County .....	1	Niagara County.....	5
Broome " .....	1	Otsego " .....	2
Chemung " .....	2	Orange " .....	1
Chenango " .....	2	Onondaga " .....	11
Chatauque " .....	2	Ontario " .....	1
Clinton " .....	2	Oneida " .....	5
Dutchess " .....	4	Queens " .....	1
Delaware " .....	2	Schenectady County.....	4
Essex " .....	3	Schoharie " .....	3
Erie " .....	12	Saratoga " .....	6
Franklin " .....	2	Steuben " .....	2
Greene " .....	8	Seneca " .....	4
Jefferson " .....	3	Ulster " .....	7
Kings " .....	22	Wayne " .....	3
Livingston County.....	2	Washington " .....	4
Montgomery " .....	4	Wyoming " .....	3
Madison " .....	1	Westchester " .....	3
Monroe " .....	5	Yates " .....	3
New-York " .....	51		197

This number being the partial returns from only two-thirds of all the Counties, it is probable that the actual number is not less than 300.

In addition to these, it is well known that there are many who prefer to go about from place to place, rather depending on the precarious chances of beggary than submit to the seclusion and restraint of the poor-house. We have reason to be thankful that the number of Indigent Blind is so small, but they demand atten-

tion none the less because they are few, while this fact renders assistance less expensive and more easy than in the case of the inebriates or the insane.

The following tables show the causes of blindness, with ages and nativities, in 844 cases, and also the cases out of that number, so far as known, which have occurred among relatives:

AGES.

In these cities blindness seems to have been entailed through unmarked mental impressions, in one case professed by the repulsive appearance of one employed in the family, who had very sore eyes; and in

As a classification of 527 cases of blindness, occurring at given ages and from known causes, will indicate, with a good degree of accuracy, a rule or basis of classification for all cases occurring within the same limits of age, a division of the unknown cases has been made accordingly.

As, however, accidents, mal-treatment and those acute diseases to which blindness is the sequel are easily observed and known, none of the unknown cases have been accredited to these causes, but to the more remote and less obvious causes—those known as specific diseases of the eye. It is proper to note that, in many cases put down as congenital, the blindness probably resulted from diseases originating after birth, though it may have been but a short time thereafter. This, doubtless, occurs many times in cases of Egyptian or Purulent Ophthalmia. Without going into a close examination of the table, the following suggestions may not be without value:

*First*—That there is the greatest necessity for cleanliness, not only of the person generally, but particularly of the eyes of young infants, in order to prevent the inception of that most rapid and destructive disease, Purulent Ophthalmia.

*Second*—That there is great danger in allowing small children the use of penknives or scissors, and in carrying or keeping loaded fire-arms.

*Third*—Whether or not, under good treatment, there need be so many cases of blindness resulting from measles, scarlet fever, &c.

*Fourth*—That there should be a more general and thorough investigation into the subject of blindness, with a view to determine, first: What are the final or ultimate causes of blindness, or the conditions, of whatever nature, which will give rise to it, and with what degree of certainty; and, secondly: What are the laws which govern its transmission from one generation to another.

It is the general opinion that blindness is congenital or inherited, but the accompanying tables show that a large per centage of all the blind are adults, who have lost their sight in mature years. Most of the blind are nearer to the grave than to the

cradle, and thus, instead of their affliction being an heir-loom of ancestral folly, is it not rather the result of their own bad habits, immoralities or abuses? It is far easier and better to prevent blindness than to cure it. So, then, let it be demonstrated and made known, not as a superstition, but as a fact, that the use of tobacco or spirituous liquors, immoral practices, the intermarriage of relatives of one blood, reading in the cars, excessive study, or any other abuse, *will* produce blindness, and with a given degree of certainty; and men and women will hesitate to indulge a habit, or carry out a purpose, which may bring upon their children, and most surely upon themselves, a calamity so great and irremediable:

TABLE SHOWING NATIVITIES OF 844 BLIND PERSONS INSTRUCTED IN THE NEW-YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

American (white).....	528	China.....	2
"      (colored).....	13	Poland.....	1
Irish.....	222	Canada.....	1
French.....	8	Italy.....	1
German.....	19	Jews.....	2
English.....	34	Assyrian.....	1
Scotch.....	2	Unknown.....	9
Nova Scotia.....	1		
			844

TABLE,

### Showing cases of Blindness among Relatives.

No. of Cases.	Grand Par'tns.	Fath'r.	Moth'r.	Son.	Daughter.	Uncle.	Aunt.	Nephew	Niece.	Cousins.	Relation of Parents.
1					2						
1					2						
1					3	1					
1					2						
1					2	1	1				
1					3	1					
1					3	4					
1					2						
1					2						
1					1						
1				1	1						
1					2						
1					2		1		1		
1					2		1		1		
1					2		1		1		
1					2		1		1		
1					1		1		1		
1					1		1		1		
1					1		5				1st cousins.
1					1		3				1st cousins.
1					1		2				
1					1		1			2	
1					2		1				1st cousins.
1					2		2				4
1					2		1				1
1					2		2				1st cousins.
1					2		2				2
1					1		2				
1					1		2				
1					2		2				
1					1		2				
1					2		2				
1	1				1		2				
1					1		2				
1					2		1				
1					2		2				
1					1		2				
1					2		2				
1					1		2				
1					2		2				
1					1		2				
1					2		2				
Total,	36	1	4	2	39	38	1	4	1	1	9

## ALPHABETS AND BOOKS FOR THE BLIND.

Books are as necessary to the blind as to the seeing, and every reason which can be urged why there should be books cheap and plenty for all the seeing, applies with equal force with regard to books for the blind. This is so evident that we need not dwell upon the necessity of the case. The demand of the blind in this regard is urgent, and much effort has been made to supply it, but the Institutions for the Blind, in or about which these efforts generally originate, have been so widely separated, in regard to time of origin and place of location, that there has been little or no community of interest or of action. The result is that there are no less than eight distinct kinds of alphabet and printing for the blind, each being advocated as having advantages over every other. It is evident that when anything is proposed to be done in relation to any class of persons or things, that the nature and conditions of the class in question will indicate the nature and scope of the action proposed. So in this case there are many facts and conditions relating to the blind, from which alone can properly be deduced the principles which should be applied in constructing an alphabet, or system of printing for their use. Nothing is gained by comparing one plan with another, until all have been compared with the true standard, as indicated in the condition of the blind as a class.

It will now be our purpose, first, to notice those conditions of the blind, which indicate the necessary characteristics of an alphabet made for their use; and, secondly, to examine the alphabets which have been made, with a view to determine their degree of conformity with these facts and conditions, and thus define the measure of their adaptability.

The first fact to be noticed is that *all* the blind must read by touch, and hence the alphabet must be tangible or perceptible to the touch.

*Second*—But the sense of touch is not equally acute in all blind persons—the difference in this respect being very wide, and this fact is of vital importance, for if the alphabet be such as only those

having delicacy of touch can distinguish, then it is not an alphabet for the *blind*, but only for a preferred number of them. Hence the signs of an alphabet should be such as those in whom this sense is the least acute may recognize, or in other words, such as all the blind may read.

*Third*—Again, it is a remarkable fact that nearly 80 per cent. of all the blind are adults and ineligible to school instruction. Most of them, having learned to read when possessing sight, feel the loss of books most keenly. Being so large a majority of all the blind, their claim cannot be overlooked. The second fact noticed is strongly exemplified in the cases of many of the adult blind, whose touch, through long misuse or hard labor, has been seriously impaired. Upon the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number, an alphabet should be adapted to their use, so that any adult blind person may learn it without the aid of special *school* instruction.

*Fourth*—The necessities of the blind require that the characters used in printing should be such as may be used in keeping a record of business matters, and in reproducing music or text books for their use. Otherwise all the adult blind, supposing all to have learned the script alphabet of the seeing, will have to learn two new alphabets—one used in printing and the other for their own use in tangible writing; while all the young blind will have to learn three, *viz.*, the script alphabet, used by the seeing; the alphabet used in printing books for the blind; and an alphabet for their own use. It is said that time is money, and if this be true with the seeing, it is doubly true with the blind, who are necessarily impeded and retarded, and hence the alphabet used in printing their books should be such as they may write tangibly, thus dispensing with one alphabet. Here then are four characteristics which an alphabet for the blind should possess:

*First*—It must be tangible.

*Second*—It must be perceptible to the touch of all the blind, to the *least acute* as well as to the *nicest* touch.

*Third*—It must be such as may be easily learned by the adult blind, at their homes, without the aid of school instruction, and if the second point be secured, this will follow.

*Fourth*—The printing and writing alphabet should be one and the same.

In addition to the above-named essentials, there are three points of relative importance to be considered, namely: compactness, cheapness and durability.

Having noticed the basis or standard upon which an alphabet, or signs for the use of the blind in printing should be constructed, we find that there are four methods in which to proceed :

*First*—The phonographic, in which all the sounds of the language are expressed by symbols expressly adapted to each sound.

*Second*—The stenographic, in which whole words, abbreviations and terminations may be represented by signs.

*Third*—The alphabetic, in which the capital and lower-case letters of books for the seeing, or combinations and modifications of either or both are used.

*Fourth*—An arbitrary system, which shall be both alphabetic and stenographic in its construction and application.

Of the first, or phonetic method, while it is quite clear that it would greatly excel all others in compactness, and equal them in cheapness and durability, it is equally clear that of the blind *receiving school instruction*, only those having the most retentive memory and the most acute touch could acquire a knowledge of a system so complex as this must necessarily be. The table which shows the degree of success attending the efforts of the blind in learning to read the *simple*, *Glasgow* or *Roman Capital Alphabet* and the *Angular lower-case Alphabet* of Dr. Howe, is good evidence on this point.

But even if the phonetic system were available to *all* the blind who have *school advantages*, it would certainly be out of the reach of the whole class of *adult blind*.

Again, it is difficult to conceive how a system of phonetic

printing can be adapted to the use of the blind in *tangible writing*. Thus, while a phonetic system for the use of some of the blind may be possible, it can be for a very small number, and hence cannot properly be called a system for the use of the blind.

The second, or stenographic system, is open to the same objection.

The great number of signs which are requisite to represent the words of a language or their abbreviations and the great similarity of many of them, would make it impossible for many to distinguish them by the touch, or to retain them in memory without the most constant practice, which few if any of the blind can ever have.

Indeed, phonography and stenography are technical arts, known and practised by a very few seeing persons, and that only in a professional or business way. It is not likely that any system so *exclusively* used as these are, and which, notwithstanding their great merits, have not been applied to the use of the seeing generally, can well answer the purposes of the blind.

We come now to notice the third or alphabetic method. Following the method used by the seeing, it is very natural to suppose that signs or letters the same in form as are used by them, will, if embossed or raised, meet the wants of the blind. Proceeding upon this idea, three alphabets have been made, two of which are in use in this country, viz.: the *Roman Capital* Glasgow or Pennsylvania System, and the *Angular* or Boston lower-case, originated by Dr. S. G. Howe. The third or the *combined* capital and lower-case, is but little used. The objections brought against the phonetic and stenographic systems may be urged against these alphabetic systems. The defects, though differing in degree, are the same in kind, for while these alphabetic systems are probably available to more of the blind than the phonetic or stenographic systems could be, still but a small per cent. of all the blind can ever read the books printed in these systems, and for this reason they are not alphabets or systems of printing for all blind person, but only for a few persons who are blind. But as to the adaptability

of the above-named alphabetical systems to the use of the blind particular attention is asked to the following table, which shows the extent to which the blind, under the most favorable conditions, learn to read them.

The results as given have been carefully prepared by each Institution, so that there is little likelihood that they are underrated.

*Table, showing the number of Blind in the several Institutions named, who can read, and with what degree of facility.*

	Total.	No. of Readers.	Per Cent.	Read with Facility.	Per Cent.	Read Moderately Well.	Per Cent.
<b>PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTION:</b>							
No. of Male Pupils.....	99			28		14	
" " Female " .....	77	176	92	32	34	18	18
<b>MICHIGAN INSTITUTION:</b>							
No. of Male Pupils.....	8			1		3	
" " Female " .....	10	18	11	3	22	4	39
<b>INDIANA INSTITUTION:</b>							
No. of Male Pupils.....	44			17		7	
" " Female " .....	50	94	58	21	40	13	21
<b>OHIO INSTITUTION:</b>							
No. of Male Pupils.....	84			27		15	
" " Female " .....	68	152	94	37	42	15	20
<b>WISCONSIN INSTITUTION:</b>							
No. of Male Pupils.....	28			8		9	
" " Female " .....	30	58	37	10	31	10	33
<b>NEW-YORK INSTITUTION:</b>							
No. of Male Pupils.....	65			10		35	
" " Female " .....	70	135	91	16	20	30	48
<b>MARYLAND INSTITUTION:</b>							
No. of Male Pupils.....	16			9		5	
" " Female " .....	15	31	27	6	48	7	38
	Total.....	664	410	65	225	34	185
							31

From this table, it appears that of 664 blind persons being instructed in seven Institutions, only 225, or 34 per cent. can read *with facility*; and 185, or 31 per cent. can read *moderately well*, and that 410, or 65 per cent. are able to read at all. As a whole, this table shows a marked uniformity in the general results obtained in the several Institutions named. But as between the extremes, there is a marked difference, the lowest being 52 per cent. and the highest 86 per cent. This is in part explained upon the principle that a larger per cent. of the young blind can

learn to read, than of the adult blind, and hence the greater the proportion of young pupils, the greater will be the number of readers. Thus the Maryland School is of recent origin, most of its pupils being young, while the Pennsylvania School is one of the oldest, and has a large number of adults learning trades.

Again it will be observed, that in every Institution except those of Michigan, Wisconsin and New-York, a greater number are said to read with facility than moderately well, while in these, the reverse is the case.

This probably arises from a difference of opinion as to the meaning of the terms "with facility" and "moderately well." In this Institution the standard is the same as in seeing schools. Reading with facility means, in short, reading with sufficient rate and proper emphasis. None of the qualities of good reading can be abated because of the absence of sight. Upon this standard, only, those who do read with proper rate and emphasis should be called good readers; while those who read slowly, who give attention to the construction of *words*, rather than to their meaning when combined in phrases and sentences, and who, for this purpose, often stop to *spell*, should be classed as reading moderately well.

My experience has always shown that a small proportion ever learn to read well that is in a manner pleasing to the listener. The table shows that of 664 blind who receive school instruction, but 65 per cent. have learned to read at all; and if under the most *favorable conditions*, 35 per cent. fail to learn the alphabet of the Boston and Glasgow systems, it is plain that a large majority of *all* the blind, probably 70 per cent., can never enjoy the privilege of reading. It is a fact which every candid observer must concede, that the systems of printing for the blind at present used in this country, do not meet the wants of the blind as a whole. And if not, why not? In answering this, we observe, that after it has been determined which of the four systems, Phonographic, Stenographic, Alphabetic or Arbitrary, should be adopted, and before it can be applied, it must be determined what the Phonetical, Stenographical, Alphetical or Arbitrary *sign* shall be.

There are but three kinds of signs by which either of the systems can be applied: the 1st, composed of straight, curved, or broken lines, or their combinations; the 2d, of points or dot-like elevations; the 3d, of a combination of points and lines. The all-important point in the consideration of this matter is the choice of a *sign*, for unless the signs are easily perceptible to the touch, their meaning cannot be known, and consequently the whole system would be useless. The Boston and Glasgow or Philadelphia signs are composed of *lines* which form letters, somewhat like those of the alphabet for the seeing. The preceding table is a practical demonstration of the fact that the line signs of these systems are not well adapted to the use of all the blind. But it may be objected that the inability of a blind person to learn either of these two systems does not arise because the signs are made of lines, and that it indicates no defect in them, but that the inability inheres in the person, so that he would be unable to learn the signs of *any other* system. That such objections are not well founded has been demonstrated in many individual cases, but in two instances it has been shown with numbers of the blind in the use of the *point signs*. The following is the return made by the Missouri Institution, and shows the result of teaching the blind to read an alphabet composed of *point signs*:

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>
Number of pupils.....	36	33	69	..
Read with facility..	22	23	45	65
Read moderately well.....	14	10	24	35

Here it is shown that of 69 blind persons under instruction *every one* has learned to read; 65 per cent. reading with facility, and 35 per cent. moderately well, while in seven other institutions, where the Boston and Glasgow *line signs* are used, but 65 per cent. can learn to read at all, 34 per cent. only reading with facility and 31 per cent. moderately well.

The other case adverted to is found in an experiment made in this Institution in trying to teach those to read the *point print* who have been entirely *unable* to learn the *line signs*.

The following shows the result:

Table showing the results of a limited trial of the Braille system with pupils who had been unable to learn the Boston print:

Males.	Age.	Time spent in studying Boston Points.	Date when Braille Alphabet was commenced	Date when Pupil was able to read.	No. of Lessons.	Remarks.
1	23 yrs.	1 year.	Oct. 9	Oct. 22	8	Reads by rapid spelling.
1	22 "	2 years.	Oct. 9	Oct. 22	8	" " "
1	16 "	4 months.	Oct. 9	Oct. 26	10	" " "
1	16 "	3 years.	Oct. 9	Nov. 5	16	Reads with moderate spelling.
1	18 "	2 years.	Oct. 9	Nov. 14	25	Reads by spelling slowly.
1	17 "	5 years.	Oct. 9	Nov. 19	30	" " "
1	16 "	2 years.	Oct. 9	Nov. 9	16	" " "
Females.						
1	17 "	1 year.	Nov. 14	Dec. 19	5	" been blind less than 2 years.

Here then is conclusive proof that those who *cannot* learn either the Boston or Glasgow print, can learn the Point Alphabet. And it should be remarked, that while the ability to read those systems is lost by a short period of disuse, or by working at any business which hardens the cuticle of the fingers; such is not the case with the Point Alphabet. It can be read by any blind person of ordinary intellect, no matter what his business nor how long the period of disuse. But it is urged against the point signs, that they are arbitrary and unlike the signs used by the seeing. If this objection were valid, it is difficult to see why the blind should have many of the facilities they now enjoy, inasmuch as they differ from the means used by the seeing for the same object. Who will insist that a man who has lost a leg shall not use an artificial one, because it is not flesh and bone, such as other people have?

But this is in reality no objection at all, for it is illogical to say that a system made for the *blind* is defective, simply because it does not suit the *seeing*, nor conform to that which the seeing use for a like purpose. The necessities of the blind grow out of their condition, and the true value of anything made for their use is found in the fact that it is adapted to *their* condition and meets *their* necessities, regardless of other considerations. Doubtless this objection has grown out of the general principle that the blind should be as much like the seeing as possible. This is true of the *ends* or final *results*, but in nowise true of means used to produce results. Thus all the seeing of schoolable age read, or at least

may if they will. Then, in order to be like the seeing, all the blind of schoolable age should be able to read. Now, which is the more important, that all the young blind should be able to read, thus being made, in fact, like the seeing, or that they should be taught an *alphabet which in some sort resembles* that used by the seeing, but by doing which only 34 per cent. of them will ever be able to read with any pleasure or profit.

The important point is, that the blind shall be like the seeing in what they *know* and *can do*, no matter whether the *means* of knowing or doing, be like that used by the seeing or not.

But the point signs have other important advantages besides that of being easily learned at any time of life by any blind person. They can be used in writing music, keeping accounts and transcribing books; so that in one and the same system the blind can read and write, thus relieving the memory of heavy burdens and enabling them to grasp a far greater range of subjects, or to engage more deeply and successfully in any given study or pursuit.

The *point signs* have another great advantage, which is, that while they are used as letters, they can also be combined so as to represent whole words, abbreviations and terminations, thus combining the features of the stenographic and alphabetic systems. The short-hand signs could be used in the books and writing of those taught in schools for the blind, while books for adults could be printed in the common signs of the alphabet. Much more could be urged in illustration of these and other advantages of this system. But having shown that the dot or point signs are in all respects best adapted to the use of the blind, the question arises what *combination* of points shall be used in constructing the letters of the alphabet. In making an alphabet there are three things to be observed :

1st. It must be systematic.

2d. It should be such as can be written with the greatest rapidity.

3d. It should be such as can be read with the greatest facility.

There are three processes of combination which may be adopted :

1st. The process of combining the dots so that each letter shall be unlike every other letter, it being simply an arbitrary sign having no reference to any other letter; thus making the alphabet to consist of 26 arbitrary signs, and which are to be learned as 26 isolated facts.

2d. The development process in which a certain number of letters, beginning at A, are formed and called a series, to each letter of which may be added a single point; thus making the second series, and by adding a point to each of these producing the third series, &c.

3d. A process of combination based on *the proportionate number of times which each letter occurs* in English composition, or, in other words, to make those letters which occur most frequently consist of the smallest number of points, while those seldom used shall have the greatest number.

Of these three processes or systems, we note that the first will be learned quite as easily as the second, and in practical application it will require no greater amount of time.

Should the pupil forget a letter, however, he would have no guide to it, as in the second system. An alphabet of this kind has been used in this Institution for many years.

Of the second system : that it has the merit of being orderly in arrangement, and so constructed as to greatly assist the learner in acquiring it ; but that in point of practical application, it has no advantage of economy in time, or in any respect other than that named above.

Of the third system : that it has all the advantages of the second as to orderly arrangement and the ease with which it may be learned, and that in application, it will save much time. Should a pupil, however, forget the construction of a letter, he will, as in the first system, have no guide to help him to construct it. This objection is, in any case, of slight account, as a blind person will

be no more likely to forget his alphabet, than a seeing person. A point alphabet of the first kind has been taught in this Institution for many years, and recently a point alphabet known as the Braille system, which is of the second kind, has been used and also in the Missouri Institution. With these exceptions, little use has been made of this valuable means of instruction.

While I would advocate any kind of point printing, in preference to the Boston, Glasgow or combined capital and lower-case systems, it is clear that a choice must be made between the second and third point systems. The third has all the advantages of the second, with the additional merit that, in writing it, there is a gain of at least 12 per cent. in time.

But the Braille system is an excellent one, and inasmuch as there are already too many systems of printing in use, which difficulty would be magnified by the introduction of another, it is urged that every Institution should be supplied with the necessary apparatus, so that all pupils may be taught to write it, in doing which they will learn to read it; thus making a demand for books and music, printed in the only type known at present, which is available for *all* purposes to *all* the blind. And I would specially urge upon all persons or Institutions possessing facilities for printing for the blind, the importance of printing books in the point signs of the Braille system.

In closing this Report it affords me pleasure to commend the pupils generally for good conduct and for the interest manifested in their work, and to thank the officers and teachers for their hearty co-operation in advancing all the interests of the Institution.

Respectfully submitted,

THE PROPERTY  
OF THE

WM. B. WAIT,

Superintendent.

December 31, 1866. NEW-YORK  
SOCIETY LIBRARY.



# LIST OF PUPILS.

---

## MALES.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>County.</i>
ASHTON, JAMES,.....	<i>Albany</i> .....	Albany.
ANDERSON, JAMES L.,.....	<i>Rochester</i> .....	Monroe.
ANDERSON, THOMAS J.,.....	<i>Rochester</i> .....	Monroe.
ANDERSON, WILLIAM,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
BALDWIN, JAMES,.....	<i>Sullivan</i> .....	Madison.
BROWN, EDWARD A.,.....	<i>Middlesex, N. J.</i> .....	
BERKINS, PETER J.,.....	<i>Woodstock</i> .....	Ulster.
BUTLER, JAMES A.,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
CROSBY, MILES,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
COLLINS, ALFRED P.,.....	<i>Dansville</i> .....	Livingston.
CONNELLY, GORDON H.,.....	<i>Seneca Falls</i> .....	Seneca.
CONNELLY, JOHN MILTON,.....	<i>Seneca Falls</i> .....	Seneca.
CREAMER, CHARLES,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
CARROLL, JOHN,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
CARROLL, THOMAS,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
CARR, MONROE,.....	<i>Jewett</i> .....	Greene.
CLARK, WILLIAM,.....	<i>Brooklyn</i> .....	Kings.
DAGNER, THOMAS C.,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
DUGANNE, CORNELIUS,.....	<i>Castleton</i> .....	Richmond.
DORAN, MICHAEL,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
DAVEN, WILLIAM,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
DAVIS, JOHN M.,.....	<i>Adams</i> .....	Jefferson.
ESTES, HERBERT,.....	<i>Brooklyn</i> .....	Kings.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>County.</i>
FLANDREAU, JOHN W.,.....	<i>New Rochelle</i> .....	Westchester.
FRENCH, CHARLES,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
FLEMING, JOHN,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
FOGGIN, EDWARD,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
GRAINEY, JOHN,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
GRIFFORD, JOB,.....	<i>Brooklyn</i> .....	Kings.
HAMMOND, GEORGE M.,.....	<i>Newcastle</i> .....	Westchester.
HOPPER, REUBEN,.....	<i>Bergen, N. J.</i> .....	
KAATSKILL, WILLIAM,.....	<i>Newburgh</i> .....	Orange.
KEISER, CHARLES,.....	<i>Brooklyn</i> .....	Kings.
LEWIS, LOUIS K.,.....	<i>Delhi</i> .....	Delaware.
LA FORGE, THEODORE,.....	<i>Rahway, N. J.</i> .....	
LETSCH, JOHN,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
LEIGH, GEORGE,.....	<i>Hudson, N. J.</i> .....	
LYON, WILLIAM,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
MAHONEY, JOHN,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
McCABE, JOHN H.,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
McCULLEN, THOMAS,.....	<i>Southampton</i> .....	Suffolk.
McCLINTOCK, DANIEL,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
McNEAL, MICHAEL,.....	<i>North Dansville</i> .....	Livingston.
MORRISON, ARTHUR,.....	<i>Rochester</i> .....	Monroe.
MUSSEHL, RUDOLPH,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
MARUM, EDWARD,.....	<i>Southfield</i> .....	Orange.
McNAMEE, JOHN,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
MORRIS, JOHN,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
NOONES, THEODORE,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
NICHOLS, ROBERT,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
NORTON, CARY,.....	<i>Warsaw</i> .....	Wyoming.
OSTERHELD, FREDERICK,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
O'BRIEN, HENRY,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
O'BRIEN, JAMES,.....	<i>Buffalo</i> .....	Erie.
OATMAN, OSCAR,.....	<i>Adams</i> .....	Jefferson.
O'BRIEN, JAMES,.....	<i>Elmira</i> .....	Chemung.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>County.</i>
PRICE, DAVID,.....	Flatlands.....	Kings.
PORAT, OSCAR M.,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
POWERS, DAVID,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
PENDERGAST, WILLIAM,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
ROACH, JOHN H.,.....	Albany.....	Albany.
ROACH, GARRETT,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
REEDER, SAMUEL,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
ROSS, EDWARD P.,.....	Brooklyn.....	Kings.
SULLIVAN, JAMES,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
STAFFORD, CHARLES H.,.....	Chenango.....	Broome.
STOUT, FREDERICK A.,.....	Dix.....	Schuyler.
STODDARD, CHARLES,.....	Brooklyn.....	Kings.
SHORDS, SAMUEL,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
STORMAN, RICHARD,.....	New-Lotts.....	Kings.
SMITH, MULFORD,.....	Smithtown.....	Suffolk.
TURNER, WALKER,.....	Cornwall.....	Orange.
TIMPSON, EDWARD C.,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
TOMPKINS, ABEL H.,.....	Goshen.....	Orange.
WINTRESS, DAVID H.,.....	Brooklyn.....	Kings.
WARD, PETER G.,.....	Schroons.....	Essex.
WILLIS, GEORGE,.....	Warrensburgh.....	Warren.

## FEMALES.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>County.</i>
ADAMS, SARAH,.....	Newark, N. J.....	
BILLINGS, DELILAH J.,.....	Penfield.....	Monroe.
BEAR, HARRIET,.....	Hudson, N. J.....	
BRADLEY, SARAH L.,.....	Syracuse.....	Onondaga.
COLLINS, CECELIA,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
CUNNINGHAM, M. J.,.....	New-York .....	New-York.
CALLEN, EMMA,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
CRAW, MARY LOUISA, .....	New-York.....	New-York.
COMMERAW, MELISSA,.....	New-York.....	New-York.
CARLI, IANTHE,.....	Flushing.....	Queens.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>County.</i>
CREAMER, MARY,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
CARNEY, KITTY,.....	<i>Middlesex, N. J.</i> .....	
CONNELLY, ESTHER,.....	<i>Seneca Falls</i> .....	<i>Seneca</i> .
CARTER, GEORGINA,.....	<i>Durham</i> .....	<i>Greene</i> .
CONROY, MARY,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
CONDERON, ELIZA,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
CASSIDY, MARY,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
DIXON, ANNA,.....	<i>Hicksville</i> .....	<i>Long Island</i> .
DURLING, FRANCES C,.....	<i>Seneca Falls</i> .....	<i>Seneca</i> .
DUFFY, ANNA,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
DUNN, MARY JANE,.....	<i>Buffalo</i> .....	<i>Erie</i> .
DICKIE, MARY L,.....	<i>Claverack</i> .....	<i>Columbia</i> .
DOMBEY, EDITH,.....	<i>Cornwall</i> .....	<i>Orange</i> .
DE BACHE, A. M. E.,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
DOLAN, DELIA,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
DONOVAN, HONORA,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
FLYNN, ELLEN,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
FORSYTH, MARY,.....	<i>Cape Vincent</i> .....	<i>Jefferson</i> .
FINNEGAN, VIRGINIA,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
GREEN, ELIZABETH,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
GEORGE, HARRIET,.....	<i>N. J.</i> .....	
HAGADORN, I. P. D. T,.....	<i>Troy</i> .....	<i>Rensselaer</i> .
HANLEY, MARY,.....	<i>Liberty</i> .....	<i>Sullivan</i> .
HYDORN, JOSEPHINE,.....	<i>Watervliet</i> .....	<i>Albany</i> .
HOSIER, ELIZABETH B,.....	<i>Greenpoint</i> .....	<i>Kings</i> .
HATT, MARY L,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
HALL, ELIZABETH,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
HORNE, ANNA,.....	<i>Albany</i> .....	<i>Albany</i> .
HOAR, MARY ANN,.....	<i>Brooklyn</i> .....	<i>Kings</i> .
HORTON, SUSAN E,.....	<i>Bethel</i> .....	<i>Sullivan</i> .
KELLY, MARY JANE,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
KEMBLE, ELIZA M,.....	<i>Brooklyn</i> .....	<i>Kings</i> .
LENT, EMMA,.....	<i>Niskayuna</i> .....	<i>Schenectady</i> .
LEE, HARRIET N,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	<i>New-York</i> .
LUDLOW, MARGARET,.....	<i>Westfield, N. J.</i> .....	
LANSLEY, HARRIET,.....	<i>Watervliet</i> .....	<i>Albany</i> .
LAMBERT, AMELIA,.....	<i>Brooklyn</i> .....	<i>Kings</i> .

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Town.</i>	<i>County.</i>
McQUADE, ELIZA,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
MOORE, ANN,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
McMANUS, MARY A.,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
MORAN, BRIDGET,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
McPARTLAN, ROSANNA,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
MAGATHAN, SARAH J.,.....	<i>Chatham, N. J.</i> .....	
McGEE, ELIZABETH,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
MURRAY, MARY,.....	<i>Troy</i> .....	Rensselaer.
NEVINS, ANNIE,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
POWELL, IDA A.,.....	<i>Brooklyn</i> .....	Kings.
PENNY, MARY J.,.....	<i>Fabius</i> .....	Onondaga.
ROBERTS, ELIZABETH S.,.....	<i>Albany</i> .....	Albany.
RYAN, ANN,.....	<i>Troy</i> .....	Rensselaer.
RILEY, EMMA,.....	<i>Cocheton</i> .....	
SLOANE, SARAHETTE,.....	<i>Fort Ann</i> .....	Washington.
SMITH, MARGARET A.,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
STONER, MARGARET,.....	<i>New Scotland</i> .....	Albany.
STAMMINGER, MADELINE,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
SHANNON, ANNIE,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
TOUEY, MARY J.,.....	<i>New York</i> .....	New-York.
TAFT, SOPHIA A.,.....	<i>North Dansville</i> .....	Livingston.
THOMPSON, MARY J.,.....	<i>Brooklyn</i> .....	Kings.
WASHBURN, CAROLINE,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
WRIGHT, IDA,.....	<i>New-York</i> .....	New-York.
WENDOVER, RACHEL,.....	<i>Butler</i> .....	Wayne.
WEBB, SOPHIA A.,.....	<i>Lancaster</i> .....	Erie.
WARD, EMMA L.,.....	<i>Orangetown</i> .....	Rockland.







COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



0050016300

